TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

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PRESIDENT HARDING DECLARES FOR POLICY THAT SCRAPS WILSON LEAGUE OF NATIONS

G. O. P. IS AGAIN IN CONTROL OF U. S. CONGRESS

Sixty-Seventh Republican Congress Convenes in Extraordinary Session to Revamp Taxes and Tariff.

Government by the Republican party came back to Washington on Monday with the convening of the Sixty-seventh congress in extraordinary session.

For the first time in eight years a Republican president transmitted to a congress that is overwhelmingly Republican, the message of the executive to chart the course of the administration in the momentous tasks ahead.

Seldom has any congress faced such a staggering array of work as confronts the Sixty-seventh. The entire foreign policy of the new administration is in the making and must receive the endorsement of the new congress; business is pressing for tax relief, for tariff reform and for a new deal in railroad matters. These four problems alone—peace, taxation, tariff and the railroads—provide enough work to keep congress busy for weeks, in the opinion of the leaders, wholly aside from the multitudinous other matters such as immigration, soldier relief and appropriations.

Appointment of committees to notify the President of the assembling of the extraordinary session, re-election of Speaker Gillett and other Republican officers of the house, introduction of hundreds of bills and resolutions in the house and organization affairs were the principal features of the opening session.

The senate, which was organized by the Republicans at the extra session last month, was in session only 20 minutes, but the house organization required several hours.

Crowds of spectators thronged both senate and house galleries.

Overwhelmingly Republican.

In the opening preliminaries the overwhelming Republican majority of 22 in the senate and about 170 in the house, worked with precision.

Senator Gillett was re-elected, 298 to 122, with Representative Kitchin, North Carolina, Democratic floor leader, his perfunctory opponent.

Representative London, New York, the only Socialist member, voted "present."

The Republicans also howled over an attempt by Representative Flood, Democrat, Virginia, to investigate the election of Representative Richard E. Bird, Republican, Kansas, who, it is alleged, spent in excess of $10,000 in his election campaign in violation of the federal corrupt practices act.

In the senate, the Republicans, under the leadership of Senator Lodge, held off attempts to introduce bills and other business. Senator Lodge said the precedents were for the postponement until after receipt of the President's message.

All house committees were organized, but the senate committees went over because of a desire of the Republicans to increase their representation on the ten principal ones.

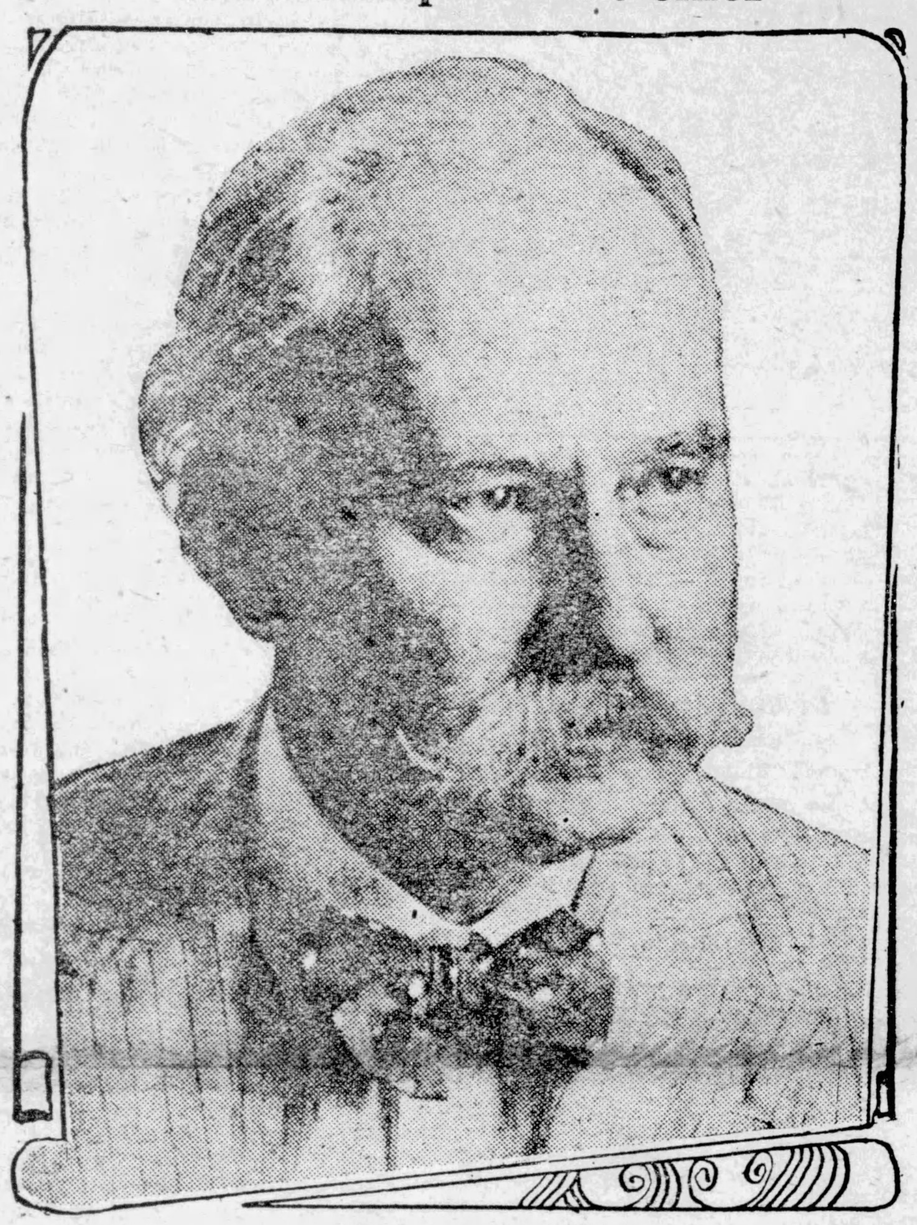
The emergency tariff bill introduced Monday is to be the first business of the house. Debate is to start immediately and leaders hope for prompt passage.

Chairman Penrose, of the senate finance committee, said that the bill also would be rushed through the senate. Democrats, he added, were disposed to withhold discussion until the paramount tariff bill is brought in.

"Drys" Rebuffed

The federal grand jury investigating liquor traffic in Buffalo has condemned the interference of outside organizations, such as the Anti-Saloon League in prohibition enforcement. Its report declares such organizations "are apt to obstruct unintentionally rather than further the end sought."

Interior Department Chief



ALBERT B. FALL.

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ALBERT BACON FALL, Three Rivers, New Mexico, is secretary of interior in President Harding's cabinet. Secretary Fall resigned from the United States senate to accept the cabinet position. He had served in the upper house since 1912 and his term would not have expired until 1923. Mr. Fall was born in Frankfort, Ky., 59 years ago. after being educated in country schools he worked as a farmer, rancher, miner and lawyer. He served in the legislature of New Mexico and as associate justice of the state supreme court.

MRS. SHONTS TO GET $100,000 FROM BONDS

The Guarantee Trust Co., administrator of the estate of Theodore P. Shonts, will pay over to Mrs. Milla D. Shonts, the widow, $100,000, which has figured in two court actions and was rejected each time. Mr. Shonts in his will acknowledged the indebtedness under a separation agreement.

This Paper Prints in This Issue—

MESSAGE of President Warren G. Harding to extra session of the 67th congress which convened Monday. The President touched upon the important legislative work which must be accomplished. Taxation reform and the tariff are the two biggest questions to come before congress. Both houses are preponderantly Republican.

Position of the United States upon the League of Nations has been clearly explained to the allied countries in a forceful note sent to them by Secretary of State Hughes. Mr. Hughes has informed the league's principal stockholders that this country can't recognize that the allies have any right whatsoever in deciding questions where American rights are concerned. This government reserves the right of decisions entirely for itself.

Both pitiable and dangerous is the man who does no work," says William T. Ellis in his Sunday school lesson. Mr. Ellis writes about the evils of idleness.

Blade features are interesting. Not only are two fiction stories run every week, but other features written by Walt Mason, Edgar Guest and A. P. Sandles, appear regularly. On Page Five this week is an article about John Burroughs, America's best-beloved naturalist and bird lover, who died recently.

Railroad workers have presented 12 points to President Harding to decide disputes now raging between the rail executives and their employes. The question is a serious one as the railroads are said to be losing money, but the workers are loath to accept a wage cut.

The first step has been taken by the Ohio legislature to reorganize the state administrative department, the senate approving Governor Davis' new code. If the plan goes through some 60 commissions and boards will be merged into about 20 bodies for efficiency.

Sir Philip Gibbs, the English writer who won fame as a war correspondent during the great struggle in Europe, has written another article for The Blade dealing with the social revolution in England brought about by the war and its influences.

FOREIGN POLICY IS OUTLINED TO 67TH CONGRESS

Nation's Executive Delivers Address to Extra Session, Revealing America's Course Toward Other Countries.

AMID ALL the impressive solemnity that marks a presidential appearance before a joint session of congress, President Harding went before the assembled house and senate Tuesday afternoon and gave the nation and the world the first authoritative outline of the new administration's policies in foreign and domestic matters.

The foreign policy which the President outlined definitely and finally "scraps" the League of Nations as it now exists, and declared that the United States can never become a member of it.

In order to get the nation back on a peace basis the President declared he would approve a congressional resolution to this effect, providing that it contained no more than the simple declaration that the state of war which has existed between the United States and Germany for four years is at an end.

The President added, however, that "it would be idle to declare for separate treaties of peace with the central powers on the assumption alone that these would be adequate because the situation is so involved that our peace engagements cannot ignore the old world relationships and the settlements already effected, nor is it desirable to do so in preserving our own rights and contracting our future relationships."

Although declaring unreservedly against "the existing league of nations," the President said:

"The wiser course would seem to be the acceptance of the confirmation of our rights and interests as already provided and to engage under the existing treaty, assuming, of course, that this can be satisfactorily accomplished by such explicit reservations and modifications, as will secure our absolute freedom from inadvisabe commitments and safeguard all our essential interests."

An association of nations, the President said, could not be founded until the world was at peace.

President Harding's principal recommendations to congress included the following:

FOREIGN RELATIONS—No separate peace with Germany "on the assumption alone that these would be adequate."

"The wiser course would seem to be * * * * to engage under the existing treaty, assuming, of course, that this can be satisfactorily accomplished by such explicit reservations and modifications as will secure our absolute freedom of inadvisable commitments and safeguard all our essential interests. * * * * No helpful society of nations can be founded on justice and committed to peace until the covenants re-establishing peace are sealed by the nations which were at war."

TAXATION—Readjustment of internal taxes and revision or repeal "of those taxes which have become unproductive and are so artificial and burdensome as to defeat their own purpose."

TARIFF—Instant tariff enactment, "emergency in character and understood by our people that it is for the emergency only."

RAILROADS—Efficient operation "at a cost within that which the traffic can bear. * * * **Railway rates and costs of operation must be reduced * * * The remaining obstacles which are the heritance of capitalistic exploitation must be removed and labor must join management in understanding that the public which pays is the public to be served and simple justice is the right and will continue to be the right of all the people."**

GOOD ROADS—The strengthen-

Continued on Page Sixteen.

WORLD-HISTORY IN THE MAKING

JOHN BULL has more trouble than he can shake a stick at. Recently the trouble has been at his own door, in his own family. At the end of the past week real war seemed imminent—war with the striking miners, joined, aided and abetted by the railroad and transportation employes.

To tie up the coal mines and railroads would mean the stagnation of industry and trade. And that in turn would mean interference with the life, welfare and pursuits of the people. The majority would be under the control of the minority, and that would be too close to anarchy for comfort. This is the dreadful thing it is the government's duty to prevent at all hazards, not only in England, but in all nations.

The British government knows its business, the business of protecting the community against any man-made calamity. It is this business, duty, the British government has been preparing, during the past week, to fulfill.

Last week the situation was bad, so bad that active preparations were being made for war. It became a question whether the government or organized labor was to govern. The one hopeful sign was the rally of volunteers to the support of the government and a questioning on the part of some of the railroad employes of the right of executives of their organization to plunge them into a strike war.

A Rift in the Clouds.

Monday brought a ray of hope, a rift in the clouds. It came in the report that the miners had yielded to the point of permitting the protection of mining property, while negotiations were to be reopened.

Willingness to discuss differences, to reason and to compromise is an unfailing evidence of sanity.

A labor war in England would be felt throughout civilization. The world is sensitive to chaos in any part of it. Any government that is prepared and disposed to take quick, drastic action to prevent a calamity does a service to mankind. It is one way to influence opposing elements in a controversy to adopt peaceful measures for the settlement of their disputes.

Peaceful settlements are profitable to all concerned. Everybody loses in a labor war, and the people who can least afford a loss suffer the most.

The Sixty-Seventh Congress.

We have something new in this country of ours. It is a new congress—the 67th. It has many new faces, most of them faces of Republicans. One of the remarkable things about this new congress is that it is overwhelmingly Republican in both branches. It is so strongly Republican that the G. O. P. cannot escape responsibility for what it does. If congress does the right thing the party will get the credit; if the wrong thing, the party will get the blame. No chance to shift responsibility.

It has been written that President Harding's fame will rest upon what this congress does. The session may develop into one of the most important in the history of the nation.

Congress has its work cut out for it. It will officially end war with Germany and establish definitely America's relations with all nations. It will be expected to enact into law domestic measures designed to rehabilitate American industries and restore prosperity.

President Harding has already made a good start in the way of getting on and this will be in his favor in his presentation to congress a list of the things he desires to have accomplished.

Mr. Harding has a way of getting along well with men, and if he cannot always get what he wants he will not be averse to compromising on the next best thing.

Greece Is Upset.

Greece is having a quiet little war with Turkey. The Greeks wanted old King Constantine back on the throne and they got him, and with him they acquired a war. Nothing much has been said about it. In many respects it seems to have been a secret affair.

Now it develops that the army has been administered a defeat at the hands of the ancient enemy. It is unfortunate that only one side in this war can receive a licking at the same time. Both deserve it for going into the affair.

Wounded soldiers are returning to Athens, and cabinet councils are being held hourly. In some parts of the country the king's pictures have been burned. Only 25 out of every 100 men have answered the call to the colors.

Men the world over are beginning to feel that war is "old stuff."

HUGHES HOLDS LEAGUE CAN'T RULE AMERICA

Secretary of State Tells Stockholders United States Cannot Recognize Decisions Concerning Our Rights.

The clear issue of the United States vs. the League of Nations has been raised by Secretary of State Hughes in his forceful note to the governments of Japan, Great Britain, France and Italy on the mandated territories in the opinion of diplomats and senators who were engaged in studying the communication.

Of deeper and more far-reaching importance than the mere disposal of the island of Yap itself is the issue raised by Secretary Hughes as to whether the League of Nations, as a world super-governing body, has the right to make decisions affecting the rights of a powerful nation not a member of the league without even consulting that nation's wishes. Diplomats saw in the Hughes note a direct challenge to the league and the solution of the question thus raised, they believed, will have an important bearing on future decisions made at Geneva.

Maintain U. S. Rights.

Secretary Hughes has flatly informed the league's principal stockholders that the United States cannot recognize that they have any right whatsoever in deciding questions where American rights are concerned. That right of decisions, it was firmly pointed out, is a right that this government reserves entirely for herself. At least this government insists on a voice in the decision, which was not accorded in the award of Yap to Japan.

> "This government must therefore point out," said the note, "that as the United States has never vested either the supreme council or the league of nations with any authority to bind the United States or to act on its behalf, there has been no opportunity for any decision which could be deemed to affect the rights of the United States."

Those members of the United States senate who so bitterly and victoriously opposed America's entrance into the league were contemplating the situation with no little satisfaction.

France Sees Our Position.

If the league position is maintained and Japan retains her authority in the Island of Yap, given her by the league, then the irreconcilable senators see their attitude toward the treaty justified—that the league is a "world super government" and members lose their power of self determination in their own affairs when they enter it.

Preliminary and early returns from abroad following receipt of the Hughes' communication indicate that France, for one, is disposed to see considerable justice in the American position. Press comment in Paris, looked upon as inspired, has been favorable.

The note to Japan differed from the other three in that it referred more specifically to the Japanese mandate over the island of Yap. All four of them reiterated the contention that the United States had sacrificed no rights in the peace settlement by reason of its unwillingness to join the League of Nations.

Mr. Hughes' contention that the United States must be accorded a voice in the disposition of the former enemy territories ceded to the allied and associated powers, applies not only to the north Pacific, but to Mesopotamia, Palestine, and the German colonies in Africa and Australasia.

His argument is that the American interest in these territories derives from American participation in the victory over the central powers, that this interest is recognized not only in the Versailles treaty, but in the mandate terms; that President Wilson, in the sessions of the supreme council, made the reservation that Yap should be internationalized, and that the council's allocation of Yap to Japan is not binding on the United States, because this nation has not ratified the Versailles treaty, under authority of which such allocation was made.

Treaty Doesn't Affect Rights.

"The fact that the United States has not ratified the treaty of Versailles," the note said, "cannot detract from rights which the United States had already acquired and it is hardly necessary to suggest that a treaty to which the United States is not a party could not affect those rights."

It should be noted that the treaty of Versailles did not purport to secure to Japan, it was pointed out, or to any other nation any right in overseas possessions of Germany except that an equal right should be secured.

Article 119 of the treaty provides, Hughes said, that Germany renounces in favor of the principal allied and associated powers all rights and titles in her overseas possessions. The secretary then emphasized that the United States is one of the principal allied and associated powers, and that the position of the government of Japan could derive no strength from the treaty of Versailles or from any discussion preliminary to it.

Continuing, Secretary Hughes said:

"As the United States did not enter into this convention or into any treaty relating to the subject, this government is unable to understand upon what ground it thereafter was attempted to confer the mandate without the agreement of the United States. It is manifest that the league of nations was without any authority to bind the United States and that the confirmation of the mandate in question and the definition of its terms by the council of the league of nations in December, 1920, cannot be regarded as having efficacy with respect to the United States."

The United States not only holds invalid the disposition, without its consent, of any of the territories ceded by the central empires to the allied and associated powers, but pointedly suggests reconsideration of the action, in defiance of American protest, approving the award to Japan of the mandate for Yap and other north Pacific islands.

By Request

Dumb Three Years, Sings

An ex-service man in London named Bishop, who was dumb for three years, was a singer at a concert held at Hollingbourne. He lost his power of speech through being blown up at Hill 60, but recovered it after a course of electrical treatment, and is now able to sing as well as ever.

No Petrol for the Reckless

So many people have been killed and injured recently by reckless driving in Vienna by taxicab drivers and chauffeurs that the police have adopted the drastic measure of depriving of petrol all licensed taxicab drivers who knock down a pedestrian.

Add Horrors of War: Prunes for Germans

A prune shipment, believed to be the biggest fruit shipment ever sent from the northwest, will leave Portland, Ore., this month for Germany. It comprises 1,450,000 pounds of Italian prunes grown in Oregon and Washington.

Thirty Killed and Property Damaged in Japanese Storm

Great property damage was done and 30 lives were lost in a terrific storm which swept the southern coast of Japan recently. Telephone and telegraph lines were down throughout the southern part of the empire. Tokio was plunged into darknes and a number of houses were destroyed.

The storm was especially severe in the harbor of Yohohama. The Japanese steamers Alabama Maru and Atlas Maru dragged their anchors and went aground. The former vessel was about to sail for Seattle and had her passengers aboard.

Dispatches received from the provinces reported inundations in many prefectures. It is said many houses were demolished by the wind. A naval cutter capsized near the port of Nagoya, and an officer and eight bluejackets were drowned. Eight workmen were buried when a tunnel collapsed near Fukushima.

The Ibi, Hida and Tenryu rivers, in the provine of Gifu, overflowed their banks and 3,000 houses were flooded. The famous bridge across the Tenryu river was destroyed.

BODY OF RAOUL LUFBERRY TO BE BROUGHT HOME

The body of Major Raoul Lufbery, famous American "ace," officially credited with bringing down 18 German planes, will be brought to Wallingford, Conn., for final interment, relatives have been informed. He was killed May 18, 1918, in combat with a German flyer in the Toul sector. He was 32 years old and had fought with the Lafayette escadrille of the French army during the earlier stages of the war.

Inhuman Stepmother

For cruelty to her three stepchildren, Mary Alice O'Kane, 28, of Scotland, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment. She continually beat the children with a poker, with pieces of wood with nails in them and with braces and straps. She fed them only on cabbage and potato peelings.

DAUGHERTY IS TO PROSECUTE PRICE FIXERS

United States Attorney General Opens Drive Against Combinations That Are Operating Illegally.

Attorney General Daugherty is here on the trail of price fixing combinations, sadly disillusioning persons who predicted there would be little effort to enforce the Sherman anti-trust act under the Harding administration. He has announced his purpose to provide suitable accomodations in the federal prisons for men and organizations guilty of maintaining high prices by illegal agreements.

Evidence in Daugherty's possession has convinced him that "intolerable" conditions prevail in a number of vital industries. He has announced the appointment of a special attorney to investigate and prosecute.

Aroused by the practices shown to prevail in a number of leading building industries, he has sent to New York City an assistant, James A. Fowler, to follow up the investigations of the famous Lockwood committee, which exposed combinations designed to control prices of brick, tile, cement, plumbing fixtures and other building supplies.

Any evidence that similar practices prevail in Detroit, Toledo, Newark and other cities would be thoroughly probed, he said, and every assistance given to local prosecutors.

In Many Cities.

Testimony before the Lockwood committee indicated that many of the combinations in New York extended to other cities or were connected by price agreements and trade understandings with organizations operating throughout the country.

All this evidence has been turned over to the department of justice and is being carefully studied by Daugherty's assistants.

Daugherty has also in his possession exhaustive reports made to his commission. One of the most important deals with the lumber industry. This report contains letters and documents from the files of various lumber manufacturers' organizations showing how prices have been controlled during the last six years by various ingenious devices.

Daugherty has served notice that so long as he is head of the department of justice, "we will not close our eyes and approve any device, scheme or trick that would violate the law."

The special senate committee headed by Senator Calder of New York, which investigated the housing shortage during the last session of congress, found that price fixing combinations were responsible for at least part of the stagnation in the building industries. Following is a significant paragraph from its report.

Competition Stifled.

"While recognizing that the providing of facilities is fundamental in the solution of the housing problem, the committee cannot overlook the facts of common knowledge that there are trade asscIations in all branches of the building industry, and that while such associations have legitimate activities, many of them exercise an accelerating influence in the enhancement of prices and a retarding influence in their return to the normal or actual supply and demand prices and tend to stifle competition and curtail supply and allot customers and territory."

The committee suggested that it be continued with power to make an exhaustive investigation of this situation.

Attorney General Daugherty's warning, coupled with his activity in collecting evidence, is expected to have a beneficial influence in causing many combinations to abandon or suspend their price-fixing activities. The criminal sections of the Sherman law provide drastic penalties for persons convicted of violations, and once it is understood the government intends to apply them, price fixing is likely to take a heavy slump.

SHORT ENDS OF WORLD NEWS

EXEMPTION of foreign profits of American concerns from the American excess profits and income tax laws is advocated by Secretary of Commerce Hoover. American firms in all parts of the world are complaining that they are forced to compete wth foreign houses who pay only local taxes.

The Chinese parliament, sitting at Canton, has unanimously elected Dr. Sun Yat Sen, first provisional president of China, as president of the Chinese republic.

Secretary of the Treasury Mellon has recommended to congress the immediate repeal of the excess profits tax.

There has been some belief that the security of the allies occupying Constantinople is threatened unless the Greeks are able to hold firmly the Turkish Nationalists. The Greek army has been pressed back by the Turkish troops.

While former Emperor Charles was returning to Switzerland from Hungary after his futile attempt to regain the throne his train was held up five hours until workers who threatened to make a demonstration against him had dispersed.

China has submitted a proposal to the committee appointed to consider amendments to the text of the league of nations which would amend the article designed to safeguard the Monroe Doctrine.

Advices from Moscow to the French foreign office report that the soviet government has decided to denationalize all factories. The Russian economic failure is given as the reason. The factories are being turned back to their former owners for exploitation.

The American Legion and the Knights of Columbus have been unable to reach an agreement for the erection in Washington of a great war memorial for which the latter organization was to furnish the funds.

A group of 14 influential members of the Japanese parliament have left Tokio for Washington to get acquainted with members of congress. They will come here to promote good relations between the two countries.

MYRON T. HERRICK has been appointed American ambassador to France, a post he filled under President Taft and which he occupied at the begining of the World war. He will go to France in the early summer.

James W. Gerard, former ambassador to Germany, recently characterized as a lie the rumer that he had betrayed Sir Roger Casement, Irish peer, who was executed by the British government during the war on charges of treason.

In the recent Milwaukee municipal election Mrs. Victor L. Berger, who was elected to the school board, was the only Socialist among the winners.

Four were killed and 30 injured last week in the wreck of the Royal Palm limited of the Queen and Crescent route, near New River, Tenn., when spreading rails hurled the train upon the racky sides of a mountain.

Mount Vesuvius was in active eruption again last week, the most violent in 15 years.

The first vessel passage through the Soo locks this year occurred last week, when the lighthouse tender Clover passed up with a load of buoys for the upper St. Mary's river.

The state department has been advised by the American minister to Panama that the national assembly there has approved the attitude of the foreign office in reiterating Panama's refusal to accept the White award as a basis for the boundary dispute with Costa Rica.

It is expected that within 30 days Mexico will pass legislation which will silence all opposition to Article 27 of the Mexican constitution and open the way to the settlement of American claims.

Walter M. Lowney of Boston, widely known candy manufacturer, died suddenly last week of heart disease. He was 65 years old.

Alexander Howat, Kansas miners' union head, has been found guilty of contempt of court in ordering a strike of coal miners recently, and was sentenced to pay a fine of $200 by Judge Andrew J. Curran.

NEW YORK CENTRAL railway has been denied the privilege of reducing the wages of its common laborers as asked in a petition recently filed by the road with the U. S. railway labor board. The road wanted the wages cut pending a hearing but the board ruled the present scale must be maintained until a final decision is made.

President Harding will take immediate steps to end the confusion and inefficiency involved in the present system of care and relief of disabled soldiers and sailors, which have made the discharge of this war obligation little short of a national scandal.

Germany has begun a new attempt to obtain American intervention in the reparations issue, writes Pertinax, best informed of French political writers.

Name of General Hugh L. Scott, former chief of staff, has been presented to President Harding for appointment as possible ambassador to Mexico.

American Legion posts have been warned by national headquarters against endorsement of memorial projects fostered by commercial interests.

Building trade workers in Lancaster, Pa., have accepted a wage cut averaging from 10 to 14 per cent.

Farm labor problem is "decidedly easier" than it has been for three years, it has been announced at the department of agriculture.

Hope has been practically abandoned by the navy department that the five men who left the Pensacola, Fla., air station in a free balloon on March 22, will ever be found alive.

New York state assembly has quashed attempts to unseat Charles Solomon and Samuel Orr, Socialist members of the lower house.

John J. McNamara, serving a 15-year sentence for murder in connection with the dynamiting of the Los Angeles Times building in October, 1910, will complete his sentence and leave the penitentiary at San Quentin on May 10.

Princess to Have Rabbitry

Princess Mary of England, who numbers tame rabbits among her animal pets, is about to establish a rabbitry at Sandringham, and has begun with the purchase of two giant Blue Beverens. The Blue Beveren is the most fashionable of the fur rabbits, whose vogue has extended rapidly during the last few months.

Berlin Secret Cafes

Huge profits are being made in Berlin by people who run secret restaurants. Two of them were discovered by the police the other night. One was kept by a shoemaker and the other by a bank clerk, who were each found to be providing a small party of merrymakers with champagne at a fabulous price.

COMRADES OF PERIL

By Randall Parrish

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Continued From Last Week

Out in the open this murmur of voices died away, but did not cease entirely. McCarthy led the way, directly across the main street, and down the path past the dance hall, which by this time was in full blaze. Beyond they were plunged into darkness, but could see ahead of them the faint gleam of a light through the window of Calkins' shack. A crowd of idlers gazed after, wondering what was up, but only a few exhibited curiosity enough to fall in behind. Stunts of various kind were not uncommon in Ponca, under the inspiration of drink and this spectacle was doubtless dismissed as a mere break. One or two sought to drop out, but Shelby collared them promptly, so that the entire bunch finally lined up behind McCarthy as he rapped on the closed door. The preahcr opened it, his round face beaming benignantly in the glare of the single oil lamp within, his bulk absolutely blocking the entrance. Beyond those close at hand had a vague glimpse of the girl, who stood back against the wall, staring toward them with wide-open eyes. The Buffalo Gap man smiled blandly in welcome, impressed by the number of faces he saw, and stepped heavily aside.

"Come right in, gentlemen," he exclaimed, gesturing impressively with one hand, "our accommodations are not extensive, as you will perceive, yet ample, I trust. Just circle about the wall there—to the left, please. Why, gentlemen, this is an exceedingly good response, far better than I had anticipated. I take it as proof of the great heart of Ponca, responding to the call of the orphaned in the moment of distress. You have explained the circumstances, Mr. McCarthy?"

"Sure."

"And these gentlemen are in full agreement with our proposition?"

"That's about the size of it."

"Very well then," his voice assuming a soothing tone, "we need waste no unnecessary time in preliminaries. I have very frankly laid the entire matter before the young lady, and have finally convinced her of the righteousness of our purpose. While at first she rebelled somewhat, I am sure she is now quite reconciled, and prepared to make such choice of a helpmeet as the Lord would approve. Do I fitly express your state of mind, my child?"

She lifted her eyes slightly, a red flush burning on either cheek.

"I suppose so; that's what you told me to say."

Shelby, slipping through the door last of all, had found a precarious seat on the sill of the window, where he had a full view of the room. The scene appealed strongly to his sense of humor, and his glance wandered appreciatingly along that solemn line of men backed up rigidly against the wall. Now that they were there, facing the slender figure of the girl opposite, their confusion and awkwardness was manifested plainly by lowered heads, shuffling feet, and hands rammed into pockets. They had lost all pretense at bravado, and the situation no longer appeared to them as a joke. They were an odd-looking bunch, crowded together under the glare of the oil lamp, the most of them roughly dressed, and unshaven, and all of them visibly embarrassed, and a little ashamed. It had begun to dawn upon many that this was a freak affair, but they could think of no way of escape. The girl stood alone just before them, and to Shelby she appeared younger, and far better looking than in the afternoon. She was dressed in much better taste, and her hair had been tastefully drawn back so as to reveal a certain symmetry to her features which her mourning had concealed. She would have been almost pretty, but for the pathetic droop at the corners of her mouth, and the rebellious, sullen look in her eyes. The preacher spread his hands in disapprobation of her remark.

"Oh, no, my dear," he protested. "I merely labored with you, and urged this upon you as the better course. I even made it the subject of prayer that we might be divinely guided. It is now a matter entirely for your own decision."

She looked from him to the row of breathless men facing her, impatiently, her bosom rising and falling tumultuously.

"These are the fellows?"

"Exactly. Mr. McCarthy assures me they are the cream of this community; he—he vouches for them."

"And I've got to choose which one I'd rather marry?"

"Well, yes, that is the idea crudely expressed. Not that you are compelled in any way; only we feel it highly desirable; that—well, perhaps I may say, it is the will of God that you make some such choice."

Her eyes wandered up and down the shrinking line, resting calmly on face after face. The men stood silent, breathless, distinctly uncomfortable; scarcely one venturing to lift his gaze to meet her scrutiny. If she felt any humor in the situation, there was no expression of it visible. She retained an appearance of sullen indifference, which was almost insolent. It was a tense, fateful moment, and no one spoke; not even a foot shuffled on the floor.

"There ain't no more of 'em?"

"No; this is all."

"And I got to pick from these?"

The preacher nodded his head, as she glanced inquiringly in his direction. The pent-up breath came in a sigh from between her lips.

"Well, if I've got to, I have, I suppose, and, so far as I can see, it don't make no great difference. I'll take the fellow sittin' over there on the window; the one with the pink shirt."

CHAPTER VI.

A Private Conversation.

Shelby was upon his feet instantly, so thoroughly startled by this sudden denouement as to scarcely find words.

"But say, hold on!" he exclaimed excitedly, "I don't belong to this bunch; I don't even live in Ponca."

"Ah, sit down," roared a man's voice sarcastically. "Take your medicine, and shut up."

"But that's true," he protested. "I never sat in this game; I'll leave it to Mac, if I did. I just came along to help out."

The girl looked from face to face in bewilderment, which, judging from the expression of her eyes was already verging on anger.

"What does the man mean?" she asked hurriedly of the preacher who stood nearest. "You said I was to choose, and now he refuses. Did this one not come pledged?"

"I'm afraid not, my dear. I did not know, but he claims otherwise. He is not a Ponca man."

She fronted Shelby, standing straight, indignant, her eyes flashing coldly.

"You make me out a fool; is that it?"

"No, not that—believe me," he endeavored to explain confusedly. "I am not a marrying man. I—I just came along to help Mac out. I—I had no idea you would select me. There are the fellows you were expected to choose from."

"And you won't marry me?"

"I—I can't—that's all," he stammered. "Oh, hell! what did you want to pick me out for?"

The girl's eyes rested hard on his face, then wandered slowly down the line of the others, and her lips set firmly.

"Well, then this play has gone far enough," she said shortly. "I've been square with you all, but I ain't going to be made a fool of no longer. Now it is time for you gents to get out o' here."

"But," protested McCarthy, who had finally found his voice, "ain't you goin' to make no other choice?"

"No, I ain't—that's flat. I pointed out the fellow I'd take, an' there ain't another one o' the bunch I'll even look at. I ain't so crazy 'bout gettin' married; it's only because he said it was the will o' God, that I have. Now I'm done. I picked my man, an' there ain't nuthin' else here I'd touch with a pair of tongs, so you might as well save your breath, and get out. I don't want to talk anymore to any of you."

"But, my dear child—"

"Stop that! I'm no dear child; I'm a woman; an' this place is mine, if it is a shack. You get right out o' here, the whole kit an' caboodle of you."

Shelby was the first to slide forth through the half-open door, glad enough to escape into the cool night air, his face burning as though on fire, his mind in a tumult of emotion. He had no sense of humor left, just an ill-defined feeling of mortification and regret. She had been justly indignant, and he felt profoundly sorry for the part he had played. Of course he couldn't marry her—that was simply impossible—but nevertheless she had appealed to him in that moment of sudden passion, as she never had before. By heavens! She was some girl; no mere wishy-washy creature to be laughed at, and ignored. He'd like to tell her so. Perhaps he would; there would be reaction after awhile, when those fellows were all gone. Her burst of anger would die away, and she would shed tears of mortification. It would be a nice thing then if he could go back in there all alone, and comfort her; explain how it happened, and show her how impossible it was for him to marry. This was the thought, the inspiration, which sent him hurriedly skulking through the darkness, until he crouched down behind the shelter of a near-by tent, barely disappearing into its shadow as the gang began to emerge from the door of the shack.

He could see them plainly enough, outlined in the light, as they descended the steps one by one, and then faded away in the darkness. They were a disconsolate, discomfited bunch, with downcast faces, and silent lips. One fellow swore as he stumbled blindly over the threshold. It was Cowan, savagely resentful still, but the others merely skulked away, looking neither to right nor left in their anxiety to get beyond the glare of light. The preacher and McCarthy came last, the former still talking, his voice imploring, but evidently to no purpose, for something behind kept impelling him forward, and, even while he clung to the step for one final effort, the door slammed in his face, and Shelby heard the sharp snap of a lock.

"Well, I'll be damned!" ejaculated Mac, his temper utterly giving way. "If she ain't a wildcat!"

"Most surprising indeed," and the preacher mopped his face. "Who would have thought our efforts would have terminated so unpleasantly? Why, I never thought it of her; she—she seemed a most gentle creature."

"Gentle, nuthin'. Lord, but I'd sure pity the feller who did marry her. Come on, old buck, there is no use stayin' here. We got to go back to the saloon, and square up with these boys. Some of 'em will be squealing if we don't. I wonder where Shelby went?"

"Straight ter hell, I hope," the Buffalo Gap J. P. burst out, forgetting his clerical role in a sudden expression of feeling. "Whatever caused the fool to butt in?"

"Oh, he didn't intend nuthin'. Tom ain't that kind. He just drifted 'long ter see the fun. Yer can't blame him 'cause the gurl took a shine his way."

The two disappeared, their voices still grumbling, and Shelby remained alone, still crouched behind the shelter of the tent. He waited there motionless for some time, undecided what to do, and endeavoring to assure himself that no others were lurking in the neighborhood. This last was easily accomplished, for although the immediate surroundings were intensely dark, the lights of the dance hall in the distance enabled him to distinguish every movement in that direction. The bunch of men had all drifted that way, and he had seen their dark outlines as they scattered into the main street. Now he could watch the two final stragglers slowly moving in the same direction. To the other side of him all was black silence, a mere deserted plain stretching away to the bank of the creek. The only sounds he heard were distant voices from the town, and the strains of an orchestra.

He got to his feet, and moved along the edge of the tent to where he could view the shack better. Through the window on that side, an unobstructed blaze of light poured forth, but even as he stood staring at it, the girl appeared fully revealed in the glare, and drew down the curtain. He saw her clearly, like a picture in a frame, her face lighted up, her hair like an encircling flame, one round arm uplifted to grasp the shade. He drew a quick breath, almost of astonishment, conscious of the rapid beating of his heart. By God, she was actually pretty! He had never thought of that before; but then, in that ruddy light, the strange impression took possession as something entirely new. And it served to strengthen his purpose. He would not play the part of a coward; he would go in, and explain; he would make her understand exactly how matters were with him, and why he acted as he had. She would comprehend, and forgive, and they would be friends. That was far the better way; he would be less than a man if he did anything else.

Yet this was accomplished hesitatingly, and in doubt. He was at the door twice, before he found sufficient courage to knock lightly. There was no response, and he used his knuckles a trifle louder, intensely conscious of a desire to turn, and run away. But there was no opportunity. The latch clicked sharply, and the light streamed directly into his face, fairly blinding him.

"Oh, so it is you back again?" She asked coldly. "What do you want?"

"Just—just to have a word with you—privately," he explained lamely, blinking his eyes. "I—I thought maybe I could explain."

"Explain what?"

"Why—why how this thing happened, Miss," his confusion rendered him almost incoherent, "you see I—I don't want you to think I'm that sort."

"Oh, you don't. Well, I'm not that sort either. Come along in if you want to; I'll hear what you have to say."

Shelby never felt quite so awkward and impotent before in all his life, as he did standing there, fiddling with the hat in his hand, while the girl carefully closed the door behind him. Her own appearance of ease, even of enjoyment, only added to his deep embarrassment. He mentally had pictured her as being dissolved in tears, a pathetic figure, mortified and humiliated, rather looking to him for comfort and consolation. Instead she was actually smiling, the droop entirely gone from the corners of her mouth, and her eyes clear and challenging. She was not even sullen or angry, but seemed perfectly indifferent as to whether he came or went.

For the first time he really took notice of the room, how plainly it was furnished, a deal table, two chairs, the stove, a few books on a shelf, with a small clock between. Everything looked cheap, but immaculately clean, and, as his eyes wandered back to the girl, that was what impressed him most about her—cleanliness. It was evidenced in face and hands, in the dark skirt, and white waist, in the smooth strands of hair. He drew a deep breath, as though at a new discovery, and felt his face reddening.

"Well," she said pleasantly, "I reckon you might as well sit down, as long as you are here."

He found a chair, and dropped into it, and she took the only other one, her hands clasped in her lap, and her serious eyes watching him with undisguised curiosity.

"I didn't expect to see you again," she broke the silence, which was becoming awkward. "What was it brought you back?"

"Fact is I don't know," he explained, startled at the sound of his own voice, "you see I—I sorter got an idea you might be lonesome, and—and a bit mad at me, an' so I thought maybe I better drop in, an' tell you how it all happened. But it don't look like you was mad."

"No, I am not mad. I flared up for a minute, but that's all over with. I ain't bothern' none about that outfit."

"So I see," somewhat more at ease, and crossing his legs. "I reckon that's about the right way to look at it. But I didn't know; I got it in my head you was some hurt the way I flew off the handle, an' so I wanter square myself. Whatever made you pick on me?"

"Why, naturally I took the best-looking one I saw Mister—Mister—"

"Shelby, Tom Shelby; so you didn't even know my name?"

"No idea of what it was; I just looked over the bunch, an' picked out the one who looked best."

"Oh, shucks! You never did nuthin' of the kind. Cowan's a blame sight better lookin' than I am, an' so's two or three of the others. You had something else in your head."

"You're right, I had," she acknowledged promptly, sitting up straight in her chair, clasping and unclasping her hands. "I picked you out, because you didn't live here—that's why, if you really want to know."

"Then you did know me?"

"No, I didn't. I saw you at the funeral, an' I knew you wa'n't no Ponca man. I didn't care who you was, or where you came from, just so you gave me a chance to get out o' this hole."

"What's the matter with Ponca?"

"Matter!" she stamped her foot, and made an expressive gesture of disgust. "I've been here three years, and I hate it—that's what's the matter. I'd marry an Indian to get out. Besides do you think I'd pick one o' those fellows, and then live here to have everybody pointing a finger at me, an' sayin' how I bought a husband with two thousand dollars. I reckon not."

"Then that was why you took me—so as to get out o' here?"

She nodded.

"That's 'bout the size of it. I did not take no stock in what the preacher said, for I ain't no weeping willow, Tom Shelby, an' I don't need nobody to take care of me; but I thought maybe this'd give me a show to get away from this shack, an' this blamed Ponca."

Shelby laughed.

"You made a mighty poor guess at that," he said cheerfully, "when you picked me. I'd took you to a worse place than Ponca."

"There ain't none," positively. "Where is it you live anyhow?"

"Over on the Cottonwood; 'bout sixty miles north, up near the Reservation. Hell! but it's lonely up there; not another white man in thirty miles."

"You live all alone?"

"Principally; got a half-breed helpin' me punch cattle, an' have just picked up another cow-hand to go long back with me. Otherwise it's just scenery and coyotes."

"You are ranching?"

"Just startin' you might say; runnin' a few head on a free range."

"But you've got a house, a place to live in?"

"Sorter shack—yes; a corral, an' a sod stable; that's 'bout all. I'd be a dandy, wouldn't I, ter ask a girl to go out there an' live? No, sir; that ain't my style; it wouldn't be decent."

She did not speak for some time, her eyes roving about the room, and then returning to rest on his face. There was no smile on her lips, yet somehow she did not look sullen or indifferent.

"And that was why you said no? you came back to explain?"

"Sure."

"It wasn't because you disliked me then? because you despised me for doing such a thing?"

"What, me? I should say not. There wa'n't nothing you done that wa'n't all right. I don't blame you a mite. You ought to get married."

"Do you really think so?"

"Yes, I do; this ain't no place for a single woman to live in, who wants to be decent. There ain't nuthin' fer her to do but go into the dance hall. Besides you're old enough."

"How old am I?"

"Seventeen maybe; I ain't much on guessing ages—specially women."

"I am nineteen," she paused, her teeth gleaming as she smiled. "I wish you would tell me about yourself."

He glanced up at her surprised, and twisting his hat about in his hands.

"That won't take long," he said soberly. "I ain't got much history, so to speak. I was born in Kentucky, an' run away when I was seventeen. Been out in this country ever since, soldiering most of the time, and then punching cattle for the Six Stars. Saved a little money and started in to go it alone. That's about all the story."

"With a lot left out. Why did you leave home?"

"Oh, they wanted me to go on in school, and be a lawyer."

"You finished high school?"

"Sure; what made you think that?"

She laughed.

"Oh, just a word or two; you've got into the habit of talking like these people out here. So have I, for the matter of that. When you live with them for years, it's bound to twist your tongue."

"Are you educated?"

"Hardly that; I was at school until I came here, and have read everything I could get hold of before and since. I can at least speak good English when I try."

"An' the thing yer want to do most is to get away from Ponca?"

"Yes."

"Yer sure yer don't hold no grudge against me for what happened tonight?"

Her lips and eyes smiled.

"Why, of course not. It was too ridiculous for anything. You cannot imagin how funny all those fellows looked standing up braced against the wall. After you had filed out, I put my head down on the table there, and laughed until I had tears in my eyes. The expressions on those faces when I picked you out, would have made a dog laugh."

Shelby wanted to say something, but his mind seemed to be utterly blank. He could just stare at her dumbly. The silence became so embarrassing that he finally got awkwardly to his feet.

"I'm—I'm awfully glad you took it that way," he stuttered. "You see I don't know much about girls, and so I was afraid you might be mad. I'll have to go now, I think, Miss."

"I'm very sorry, but I'm glad you came. Good-bye, Mr. Shelby."

He took the outstretched hand, conscious of the warm pressure, even as he fumbled at the latch of the door. His eyes were downcast, and his face flamed; nor did he breathe easily until he was again outside, alone in the darkness of the night.

To Be Continued.

There are more than 750,000 women schoo' teachers in the United States.

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Read the Advertising

We will not, knowingly, accept advertising from a dishonest concern. Our readers are our friends and an advertisement is an introduction of the advertiser into the homes of our friends.

We will not, knowingly, introduce a dishonest advertiser into your TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE and guarantee his honesty any more than you would knowingly introduce a dishonest person to your bank and guarantee his note.

When you answer an advertisement, refer to The Weekly Blade.

THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 1921.

Though we won't trade with Russia it will be all right to ship her another cargo of raw Reds.

Chagrin is what is the matter with Germany. She expected somebody else to pay for the war.

There is optimism enough in the country but the optimists are all standing pat.

Looks as if the Washington administration can be relied upon to kick the prop out from under propaganda.

Communist uprisings in Germany usually bring about nothing more than a headache.

Lima Beane says the egg trust isn't as fresh as it was.

A news report says the pug dog has become extinct. As we remember the pug dog he was always breathing his last.

Russians can't eat the gold stolen from the capitalists. Hog and hominy would be more satisfying.

Secretary Hughes expects Germany to pay to the limit of her ability. Many expect her to lie about her ability.

Detachable eyelashes for women are said to be coming into style. Something else to mislay.

Canned tomatoes are said to be rich in vitamine content. Veterans of the A. E. F. need not worry about vitamines. They consumed enough in France to last them indefinitely.

In the old days, when there was no beer, sick people thought quinine was bitter enough to cure them.

We'll never get around to following the Golden Rule if we wait till others quit doing us.

They tell us we are made of dust, and again that we are something like 95 per cent water. Why not tell the truth and make the humiliation complete? Our name is Mud.

Lenine is finding it difficult to found a kingdom on a bale of worthless rubles.

War in the East goes on without any big world affair to interrupt. Greece and Turkey can now fight in peace.

Short skirts are sensible; too short, they are sensational.

Justice never calls for a dark room in which to work.

No man can keep his mind on the possibilities of a breach of promise suit and write a love letter that will get him anywhere.

Mr. Taft says "work is the greatest boon ever conferred on man." He is right. It is work that puts payday on the calendar.

A respectable majority thinks pretty well of the minority. But the minority doesn't think the majority has much sense.

Increasing the tax on automobiles would be a hardship to owners who narrowly escaped being too poor to buy one.

Former Emperor Karl may be able to comprehend now that the original kick he received was intended to be permanent.

There is a pleasant emotion in the way Secretary Hughes tells 'em what is what.

Some men seem to take pride in breaking a law. But do they go home in the evening and tell the family how many laws they broke during the day?

Not even the Volstead act can keep a determined man from being his own worst enemy.

Many men find themselves in fiction—some as heroes and some as villains.

French blondes are dying their hair a brunette color. Evidently trying to fool the scientists who said they were to become extinct.

The President Is Right

The wisdom of President Harding's evident determination to refuse recognition to the Obregon government until Mexico gives signed and sealed guarantees for the protection of American life and property becomes more apparent day by day. Despite the verbal protestations of undying friendship and the cabled expressions of national amity which arrive verbosely from the City of Mexico, the record of the murder of American citizens south of the Mexican border grows without interruption. The vicious anti-Americanism which became a national policy under Carranza, remains in no whit abated and the footless folly of the Wilson administration's flirtations with the new regime is interestingly obvious.

Mexico is a rotten mess. The country is basicly lacking in love and respect for law and order. It must be taught to behave and it is the obvious duty of the United States to undertakes the teaching. The fact that various American corporations with large investments in Mexico will profit through the restoration of order in the southern republic is entirely incidental. It is a fact which has given some of our yellow journals and a few of our Washington demagogues an opportunity to howl about the interests, but it offers no argument against the safeguarding of the lives of American men and women and children who have sought happiness and a living south of the Rio Grande.

When President Obregon abrogates the generally anti-foreign and specifically anti-American provisions of Articue 27 of the Mexican constitution, and when he sends to Washington signed and workable guarantees that American life and property are to be made safe and kept safe within the borders of his country, he may reasonably ask for and expect American recognition. Unless and until he does these things, President Harding is everlastingly right in withholding American sympathy and protection.

Playing With Destruction

Outside of the British islands, there is not a railroad in Europe in creditable condition. Every line is disorganized. Every one is inadequately equipped, suffering for want of rails, repair materials, proper fuel. Rates are high, but they seem unable to supply either the tangible needs or the stimulation to keep the managers and workmen upon their toes. It is the view of a great number of observers that the greatest affliction of continental Europe today is poor transportation.

The war, of course, is responsible. Where it did not wreck railroads, it wore them out. Where it did not exhaust their mechanical facilities it drew away men hard trained in railroad operation the skilled products of a generation. Thousands upon thousands of these men never returned to their tasks of peace. Nor will they ever return to any place or anything in this world.

Certain things that are going on in the United States at this time ought to make us see that a nation's railroad system can be ruined by other causes than war. Our railways today lack every attraction to the investor. In the days of high prosperity they lacked the power to hold their skilled personnel. Something like civil war exists between the managements and the unionized workmen. Subject to such a strain as was experienced for a period of years ending with early autumn in 1920 the railroads probably could not stand up under it. They haven't the reserves either of capital or equipment. About every tenth citizen believes he has some quarrel with the railroads. About every one in five is convinced that he has some cure for the situation other than such a cure as a practical railroad man would apply. Nagged at by communities, by industries, by occupational associations, by political faddists, by travelers and shippers, by all sorts of agencies and elements, the American railroads are in an evil way. It would not take much to reduce them to the state of the systems of continental Europe.

This country is the country it is because of its unexcelled transportation. The railroads have not only served the people of the interior completely, but also those upon seacoast and rivers. They have made the great mill districts possible. Without them, the wide wheat-growing sections could never be so specialized in their products. Without them, California would have raised enough fruit for itself and little more. Mine and field, factory and city, the social, political and industrial structure of the country depend upon railroad transport as the living human organism depends upon oxygen. If we come to do without adequate means to exchange our products and to travel about we shall have to learn to do without a multitudinous number of things we count as necessary.

There is no problem of our day whose solution is more vital to our wellbeing than this vexatious railroad question. It ought to obtain the best thought of the nation. It should obtain the greatest possible relief from the scolding and nagging. Every citizen should understand fully what we stand to win by settling the difficulty and how tremendous will be the losses if, left to drift, the transportation problem reduces us to the condition of the greater part of Europe.

Banishing the 12-Hour Day

In establishing an eight-hour day, after holding out beyond all other industries, the United States Steel Corporation is scarcely likely to lose anything. The 12-hour day in its plants has been distinguished for years as producing the slowest work performed in the country outside of penal institutions. The whole atmosphere in most steel-making mills is one of weariness. It is a wonder it has not been one of exhaustion.

Whiting Williams tells of how he tried to adjust the supply of vitality to the necessity of having to put in 12 hours at moving bricks:

"When I started in I figured I'd keep going as long as I could and loaf after I was played out. I couldn't get on with the program. First the little Italian boy tapped me on the shoulder and advised: "Lotsa time! Take easy!" I slowed down a notch or two. A little later the Russian, wiping off the sweat as he sat for a moment on a pile of bricks, cautioned: "You keel yourself. Twelve hours long time." Finally, after everyone had remonstrated, I got down to a proper gait—so you'd have to sight by a post to see if I was moving."

The steel companies have managed to stick to their 12-hour working day, to a seven-day working week, in spite of all kinds of pressure, that of the labor unions, public opinion and the scalding criticisms in government reports. What they managed to keep at the same time were tired superintendents, tired foremen, tired workmen and, measured by hours, the lowest production in any manufacturing trade in the world.

That finally the point of view of the steel bosses is changing speaks less for the influence of the sense of human fellowship than for the ultimate triumph of industrial common-sense.

The Biggest Empire

Not daunted by the changes and heavy tasks of the war, the British government is planning for the usual census of the largest empire the world has ever known. It has long been the custom of the imperial authorities to make an enumeration of the people of the empire in April.

This counting of the human beings that live under the British flag will probably show a total of at least 440,000,000. The number may be even greater. It will certainly cover the largest mass of population ever gathered under the rule of any government. There is no reason to believe that the Chinese empire ever had more than 400,000,000 subjects.

The peak of Roman power fell far short of a parallel, in population or in area. It never touched America, of course, or India, and in Africa it only skirted the Mediterranean Sea. And when Alexander the Great made himself master of Asia Minor, Persia and a small part of India he held only the southeastern corner of Europe. His subjects could not have numbered more than 100,000,000 at the most extravagant estimate.

The Mongols under Genghis Khan overran western Asia, parts of eastern Europe and much of the present Chinese empire, but they established no unified empire, and the lands they seized were mainly of sparsely population, by comparison with the India of this period. No Mongol sovereign ever ruled anything like 400,000,000 human beings. Still less did he extend his sway over a quarter of the land surface of the globe.

If the British empire were as cohesive as it is vast, as uniformly loyal as it is populous, as natural a political and governmental unit as it is prodigious in bulk of every sort, it would be the most portentous creation of empire-builders that the world ever saw. As it is, it is a huge thing and quite sufficiently potent, for good or evil.

Not to Be Bet Upon

Smoothing away the worries of the brewers, the British lord chancellor said:

"As to the apprehension or the chance of a general move such as has taken place in America I am one of those who do not believe it is even conceivable that a similar change can take place in Great Britain."

For exactly similar sentiments, but as regarding the United States, the Brewers' Year-Books can be consulted with profit. It is scarce a thing that can be bet upon. The American rebellion against booze, for all of its loud conversation about the evils of alcohol, was essentially an uprising against the saloon. The complaisance with which rum-running, bootlegging and home-brewing is endured by the leaders of the dry movement is demonstration enough as to what they were after, and that what they were after they were satisfied to get. British public-houses correspond fairly well to our vanished saloons. They are very likely to find themselves some day to be the target of the same sort of bombardment.

TALKSMITHS

BY WALT MASON.

MY neighbor, Hiram Henry Hicks, is fond of talking politics; that is a theme that makes me sore, so Hiram Henry seems a bore. But I'm the sort of saphead wight who always strives to be polite, so I pretend that H. H. Hicks, with all his talk of politics, is holding me entranced, speel-bound; I do not yawn or rubber 'round, but hang upon his throbbing words as though they well might charm the birds. But when H. Henry Hicks runs dry, and I would talk of books or pie, or any topic I adore, he looks uopn me as a bore; he interrupts and yawns and sighs, and hot tears gather in his eyes, and then he reaches for his hat, his parasol, brass knucks and gat, and hastens from my humble shack—he cannot bear to hear me clack. And Hiram Hicks is short of friends; the people shun him as he wends along the main street of our town; he as a bore has wide renown. But when I trip along the street I'm smiled upon by all I meet. This moral, then, these facts afford: You must be willing to be bored if you would bore the other toff, and talk his blooming whiskers off.

Copyright by George Matthew Adams.

ABE MARTIN

"I've got an engagement t' take an auto demonstration," said Lafe Bud this mornin' as he borrowed a quarter t' git a hair cut.

"I wish I'd bought a guitar instead o' so many silk shirts," said Al Lark, late o' the brick yard, t'day.

VARIETIES

There are seven varieties of the African lion.

The ferret is a domestic variety of the polecat.

Copper is said to have been first discovered in Cyprus.

Sea urchins retreat to deep water at the approach of a storm.

The horned hog of Java is a dexterous diver and swimmer.

The first bicycle driven by pedals was made in Paris in 1866.

Cypress and walnut, when used in contact, cause each other to rot.

Every citizen of ancient Athens of 20 years of age was entitled to vote.

Ecuador takes its name from the fact that it is situated on the equator.

In rare instances baldness in human beings at birth persists through life.

Vegetation almost ceases in the sea at a depth of from ten to fifteen fathoms.

No gypsy regards a marriage as valid unless performed by the light of the moon.

The harbor of Dalny, Manchuria, is one of the deepest and best on the Pacific.

Damascus is surrounded by a dilapidated wall six miles in circumference.

Galileo taught how to measure the height of the moon's mountains by their shadows.

The Romans used to send one another sprigs of holly as emblems of good luck.

The fisheries of the sea of Galilee, once prosperous, are now almost entirely neglected.

United States troops operating against the Filipinos in 1904 were armed with bolos.

Savages of Panama a few decades ago burned slaves to death in honor of their idol, Dabaira.

The day of the planet Venus is estimated by some scientists to be equal to 225 of our days.

Nickel coins are in use in Ceylon, Uganda, India and Nigeria, among other British possessions.

Shaving off the whiskers is among Hindoos a sign of mourning for the death of a near relative.

Landscapes on the moon and Mars and its canals are all depicted in a French cinematograph film.

Alligators grow very slowly. A twelve-footer may be reasonably supposed to be about 75 years old.

Strawberries can now be kept sufficiently fresh for jam making by freezing for a period of months.

White gold miners in South Africa work an eight-hour day shift, while the 200,000 natives work only five hours.

It is the habit of bees to place their honey in the coolest place in the hive, and the young insects in the warmest.

The wheat harvest of India, after allowing for exports, is 1,629,000 tons above the normal requirements of that country.

It is estimated that every year forest fires in America destroys more than $200,000,000 worth of standing timber.

Tame snakes are used in Morocco to clear houses of rats and mice. The sight of a snake seems to terrify the rodents.

The telephone wires in the United States aggregate 28,827,188 miles—enough to girdle the earth at the equator 1,153 times.

The British and Foreign Bible Society has produced the Scriptures in more than 80 African tongues and dialects alone.

In North Australia there are certain cannibal tribes who make a practice of eating their slain friends, but not their enemies.

Herzleide, or "Heart Sorrow," is the name bestowed on his newest daughter by Oscar, fifth son of the former German kaiser.

Galileo's astronomical researches led to his being accused of heresy, and he was twice persecuted by the Inquisition.

More than 400 commercial airplanes are in use in England, and they have carried more than 60,000 passengers in six months.

A Chilean mountains consists of an almost solid mass of more than 100,000,000 tons of high-grade iron ore averaging 68 per cent metal.

There are about 130 species of bats, and these are distributed over nearly every quarter of the globe. The larger bats are found in the warmer regions.

Audubon tells of a party of sportsmen who, in 1821, shot 48,000 golden plover in a single day, which fact helps to explain why the golden plover is now almost extinct.

Wood for tennis rackets requires at least five years seasoning—that is to say, it requires to be kept for five years in the rough timber state before being cut up for use. Wood for pianos is kept, as a rule, for 40 years before it is used.

JOHN BURROUGHS, NATURE LOVER

"IN every man's life we may read some lesson," wrote John Burroughs in one of his books after he had passed the Scriptural limit of three score and ten. "What may be read in mine? If I myself see correctly, it is this: that one may have a happy and not altogether useless life on cheap and easy terms; that the essential things are always near at hand; that one's own door opens upon the wealth of heaven and earth, and that all things are ready to serve and cheer one. Life is a struggle, but not a warfare; it is a day's labor, but labor on God's earth, under the sun and stars with other laborers, where we may think and sing and rejoice as we work."

When America's best known naturalist, who died recently, forsook the world of business in 1884 and withdrew to his farm on the banks of the Hudson River, to the "Slabsides" and "Woodchuck Lodge," that were to be, it was that he might live his "not altogether useless life on cheap and easy terms." His work in the treasury department at Washington as a vault keeper, his ten years as national bank examiner brought him in contact with the wealth, the mere dollars which the average man pursues, but it was not the "wealth of heaven and earth" upon which John Burroughs longed to open his door.

Kind of Wealth He Desired.

The kind of wealth he meant was this: "Yesterday was an October day of rare brightness and warmth. I spent the most of it in a wild, wooded gorge of Rock Creek. A persimmon tree which stood upon the bank had dropped some of its fruit in the water. As I stood there, half-leg deep, picking them up, a wood-duck came flying down the creek, and passed over my head. Presently it returned, flying up; then it came back again, and sweeping low around a bend, prepared to alight in a still, dark reach in the creek hidden from my view. As I passed that way about half an hour afterward, the duck started up, uttering its wild alarm note. In the stillness I could hear the whistle of its wings and the splash of the water as it took flight. Near by I saw where a raccoon had come to the water for fresh clams, leaving his long, sharp track in the mud and sand. Before I had passed this hidden stretch of water, a pair of those mysterious thrushes, the gray-cheeked, flew up from the ground, and perched on a low branch."

Beyond mere dollars were things like these: "With June the cup is full, our hearts are satisfied, there is no more to be desired. The perfection of the season, among other things, has brought the perfection of the song and plumage of the birds. The master artists are all here; and the expectations excited by the robin and the song sparrow are fully justified. The thrushes have all come; and I sit down upon the first rock, with hands full of pink azalea, to listen. * * *

"In a secluded, swampy corner of the old Bark-peeling, where I find the great purple orchids in bloom, and where the foot of man or beast seems never to have trod, I linger long, contemplating the wonderful display of lichens and mosses that overrun both the smaller and the larger growth. Every bush and branch and sprig is dressed up in the most rich and fantastic of liveries; and, crowning all, the long bearded moss festoons the branches or sways gracefully from the limbs. Every twig looks a century old, though green leaves tip the end of it. A young yellow birch has a venerable, patriarchal look, and seems ill at ease under such premature honors. A decayed hemlock is draped as if by hands for some solemn festival.

"Mounting toward the upland again I pause reverently as the hush and stillness of twilight come upon the woods. It is the sweetest, ripest hour of the day. And as the hermit's evening hymn goes up from the deep solitude below me, I experience that serene exaltation of sentiment of which music, literature and religion are but the faint types and symbols."

It was not for the sake of mere contemplation that he opened his door upon the wealth outside: he was not a passive dreamer, but an active naturalist, who, beginning first out of pure love for the out-of-doors, developed into a scientific observer of the facts of the animal and plant worlds. In Wake-Robin he speaks of the hold that ornithology had upon him. "It is a surprise that awaits every student of ornithology, and the thrill of delight that accompanies it, and the feeling of fresh, eager inquiry that follows, can hardly be awakened by any other pursuit. Take the first step in ornithology, procure one new specimen, and you are ticketed for the whole voyage. There is a fascination about it quite overpowering. It fits so well with other things—with fishing, hunting, farming, walking, camping out—with all that takes one to the fields and woods. One may go blackberrying and make some rare discovery; or while driving his cow to pasture hear a new song, or make a new observation. Secrets lurk on all sides. There is news in every bush. Expectation is ever on tiptoe. What no man ever saw before may the next moment be revealed to you. What new interest the woods have! How you long to explore every nook and corner of them! You would even find consolation in being lost in them. You could hear the night birds and the owls, and in your wanderings might stumble upon some unknown specimen."

Wild Strawberries.

Nothing escaped his sharp eyes; he saw all that Nature had to display. The pathways of the fields and woods were as familiar to him as the city's streets to the city dweller. He knew how difficult it was to discover the bobolink's nest in the grass; he knew the habits of the honey bee, the ways of the squirrel, the woodchuck, the ant, the spider. There was not lost to him any of the tragedies that overshadow the wild life of the open; he could read the meaning of the broken eggs in the robin's nest; he saw the lifeless swaying form of the oriole entangled in the horsehair which she had brought to build her nest; he measured the good in life against the evil he saw in it and stored the answer up until the time when he should build them into his philosophy. If Nature at times seemed grim, if tooth and claw were red, he didn't blink the fact or turn from it. Nor did he miss the joys that abound on every side; he took keen delight in watching the birds in mating time, in roaming the fields for wild flowers, in gathering wild strawberries, of which he writes: "What a challenge it is to the taste; how it bites back again! and is there any other sound like the snap and crackle with which it salutes the ear on being plucked from the stem. It snaps to the ear as it smacks to the tongue. All other berries are tame beside it. * * *

"Adam is still extant in the taste and appetite of most country boys; lives here a country boy who does not like wild strawberries and milk—yea, prefers it to any other known dish * * * When I was a lad, and went afield with my hoe or with the cows, during the strawberry season, I was sure to return at meal time with a lining of berries in the top of my straw hat. They were my daily food, and I could taste the liquid and gurgling notes of the bobolink in every spoonful of them; and at this day, to make a dinner or supper off of a bowl of milk with bread and strawberries—plenty of strawberries—well, is as near to being a boy again as I ever expect to come. * * * Indeed, I think, if there is ever rejoicing throughout one's alimentary household—if ever that much abused servant, the stomach, says Amen, or those faithful handmaidens, the liver and spleen, nudge each other delightedly, it must be when one on a torrid summer day passes by the solid and carnal dinner for this simple Arcadian dish."

Things He Escaped.

When long years had been spent after his own fashion he sat down to sum up his life in his book, "The Summit of the Years." "I am in love with this world," he confessed, "by my constitution I have nestled lovingly in it. It has been home. It has been my point of outlook into the universe. I have not bruised myself against it, nor tried to use it ignobly. I have tilled its soil, I have gathered its harvests. I have waited upon its seasons and always have I reaped what I have sown. While I delved I did not lose sight of the sky overhead. While I gathered its bread and meat for my body I did not neglect to gather its bread and meat for my soul. I have climbed its mountains, roamed its forests, sailed its waters, crossed its deserts, felt the sting of its frosts, the oppression of its heats, the drench of its rains, the fury of its winds, and always have beauty and joy waited upon my goings and my comings. * * *

"I was never a fighter; I fear that at times I may have been a skirker, but I have shirked one thing or one duty that I might the more heartily give myself to another. He also serves who sometimes runs away.

"From the summit of the years I look back over my life, and see what I have escaped and what I have missed, as a traveler might look back over his course from a mountain top, and see where he had escaped a jungle or a wilderness or a desert, and where he had missed a fair field or a fountain, or pleasant habitations. I have escaped the soul-killing and body-wrecking occupations that are the fate of so many men in my time. I have escaped the greed of wealth, the 'mania of owning things,' as Whitman called it. I have escaped the disappointment of political ambition, of business ambition, of social ambition; I have never lost myself in the procession of parties, or trained with any sect or clique. I have been fortunate in being allowed to go my own way in the world."

Burroughs' Philosophy.

His philosophy may seem a hard one to the less courageous man who is content, to lie softly cushioned in the old religious faiths, who would shield his soul from the rude truths the world is constantly thrusting forward for him to see. He believed he described a purpose in things, an intelligence in Nature despite her hit-and-miss methods. "Nature is pervaded with an intelligence that differs in kind from that of man," he says, "a blind, groping intelligence. Instead of taking short cuts, as man does, and saving time and waste, she beats all about the field, like a blind man looking for a gate. * * *

"We say that Nature is blind, but she has no need of eyes, she tries all courses; she has infinite time, infinite power, infinite space; and so far as our feeble minds can see, her delight is to play the game of blind man's bluff over and over to all eternity. Her creatures get life, and the joy and pain that life brings, but what is augmented or depleted, or concluded or satisfied, or fulfilled—who knows? * * * It seems like a sort of haphazard business; the whole life of the globe does. Such delays, such waste, such blind groping, such hit-and-miss efforts, such apparent indifference on the part of Nature as to which combatant succeeds; life preying upon life, form devouring form; species after species becoming extinct, internecine war on every hand, clashing forces, clashing interests from one end of creation to the other; turmoil, defeat, failure, death everywhere; the very elemental forces pitted against one another—frost and heat, fluid and solid, growth and decay struggling for the mastery, the earth building up, the air and the rains pulling down—yet out of this chaos and strife has come the flower, has come the grass, has come the bird, has come man, has come the 'apple blossomed earth,' as we know it. Underneath and through all some kind of law and order has prevailed, something like will and purpose seem to have been at work."

NEWS FROM CAPITAL

What Congress Is Doing

WHILE Republican members of the senate are urging President Harding to scrap the Versailles treaty and accept the Knox resolution declaring peace with Germany, Secretary of State Hughes advocates American representation in the reparation commission, and Secretary of Commerce Hoover favors a new international conference to revise the treaty.

Republican opponents of the Colombian treaty are making a final effort to induce President Harding to withdraw the pact from the senate and enter into negotiations for a new agreement with Colombia.

Representative Young of North Dakota, in a report favoring the passage of the emergency agricultural tariff bill, said that by aiding the farmers all lines of industry will be revived.

Economies in railroad operation must be effected speedily in order to avert profound disturbance in business conditions, President Harding was told by Darwin P. Kingsley, president of the New York State Chamber of Commerce, and S. Davies Warfield, president of the National Association of Owners of Railroad Securities.

President Harding intends to halt federal appropriations for the aid of states in highway construction until the states provide adequate means for the maintenance of the roads constructed.

Commissioner of Internal Revenue Williams said that the matter of regulations governing distribution of beer and wine for medicinal purposes will be left to the discretion of his successor in office.

Republican Leader Mondell expressed the belief that tax laws should be revised on a basis which would mean a reduction to a level of $1,500,000,000 below the $4,000,000,000 estimated by former Secretary of the Treasury Houston to be necessary.

Representation is given to agriculture and later in an enlarged Republican steering committee of the house named by the committee on committees.

Secretary of War Weeks in a letter to Senator Capper admitted that the Baden government in Germany had refused a formal request made by Gen. Allen for the return to custody of United States forces Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, fugitive American draft dodger.

President Harding approved the report of the Dawes commission recommending the merging of agencies for soldier relief.

Attorney General Daugherty, denouncing as "intolerable" price fixing conditions and other illegal practices in the building material trade throughout the country, declared the department of justice is going to clean up the trade and stamp out the objectionable practices.

Senator Curtis of Kansas will introduce and sponsor the new woman's party bill removing the discriminations against women over which congress has control.

Secretary of the Navy Denby, returning from his first inspection of the fleet, praised officers and men and declared that nothing he had seen had altered his determination that the United States must maintain a big navy.

Passport control affecting Americans leaving or returning to the United States and outgoing aliens has been terminated as a result of the war legislation repeal, but the attorney general holds that passports must still be required of aliens entering the United States.

The Anti-Saloon league objects to the proposed transfer of prohibition enforcement from the treasury to the department of justice.

Gov. Harding of the federal reserve board told southern bankers that they could remedy the southern trade situation if they would lend more money to cotton planters instead of tying it up in speculative deals.

Secretary of the Treasury Mellon said he had not made up his mind on the question of sales tax.

The monthly review of industrial conditions by the United States employment service shows a continued decline in employment.

President Harding received a delegation from the National Woman's party and expressed interest and approval of the bill to be introduced by Senator Curtis of Kansas to remove remaining discriminations against women over which congress has control.

Postmaster General Hays announced program of postal improvements decided on as a result of conferences with city postmasters.

Advocates of the Colombia treaty made public the letter written by Theodore Roosevelt to Senator Fall of New Mexico, now secretary of the interior, favoring "a new and proper treaty."

Secretary of State Hughes' note to the allied powers holds invalid the disposition, without American consent, of the territories of the Central empires ceded to the five big nations, and suggests reconsideration of the action, in defiance of American protest, approving the award of the mandate for Yap and other North Pacific islands to Japan.

The problem of public communication with special reference to the Marconi monopoly was discussed at the cabinet meeting, and will be reconsidered further by a special commission.

Representative Kitchin will present a minority report from the house ways and means committee in opposition to the emergency agricultural tariff bill.

WAIT A MINUTE

BY HOWARD P. WARWICK

Uncle Henry says: "I expect my neighbors will miss me after I'm dead, not because of my sunny disposition, but because they won't be able to borrow my tools, lawn mower and garden hose any more."

Life's Discomforts.

Watching the pointers on the dials of your gas and electric light meters spin around.

Useless Occupation.

Looking for a friend who has just purchased an auto to come and take you for a ride.

A Pessimist Is—

A man who plants a garden early and expects the frost to spoil it all.

SCHOOL GIRL CHATTER.

Did you ever come within hearing distance of a group of high school girls on the way home from school? It's not hard to do unless you are deaf. Let three or more such girls get together and the resulting chatter is as bad as the din that follows the closing of church services. Their tongues are busier than the hands of an ice cream soda dispenser on a hot July day. They wag faster than the tail of a hungry dog waiting for you to give him a bone.

Talk is said to be cheap, but they give it away. When one of the girls gets out of breath and has to cease all verbal effort, another begins a lengthy discourse on nothing in particular. Sometimes they all talk at the same time, each one fearing that she'll forget what she has to say before she can say it.

Here is an example of the general run of their conversation:

Mamie: "Well, I'm glad school is out. I flunked in all my recitations, but then my teachers don't understand me. Mother says that the public schools are too common for me and my environment keeps me from learning anything. She would like to send me to a private school where the teachers are my equals, but Father claims you can't educate a fool."

Genevieve: "Oh, I don't think I would want to go to a private school for girls. There are no boys there for me to talk to."

Leonore: "You're just man crazy. You ought to stay home and learn to cook. Men don't care how much Latin and French you can read if you can translate a cook book."

Florence: "I think so, too. Isn't Mr. Miles, the new English teacher, a dear?"

Mamie: "Oh, I don't know. He wears the same tie every day."

Leonore: "What do you think of Jack Edwards, that good looking boy in our algebra class?"

Genevieve: "He asked me to the dance on the 25th."

Leonore: ""He's not so much. His father is a bricklayer."

Genevieve: "It's honest labor, isn't it? He makes more money than Will Smith's father, who's a bookkeeper."

Leonore: "Will is a nice boy. I like him."

Mamie: "So we notice."

Genevieve: "So's Jack."

Mamie: "I'll say Jack's all right. He was awfully nice to me the last time he took me to a dance."

Florence: "He's pretty soft."

Genevieve: "How do you know?"

Florence: "I ought to know."

Leonore: "Let's talk about something else. Are you going to take off your ear puffs this summer?"

Florence: "And look like old Miss Briggs? Never."

Leonore: "Here's my street. I mustn't forget to stop at the store and get some gum. Miss Briggs made me throw away my last stick today."

Genevieve: "She's sore because Jack's going to take me to the dance. Well, goodbye, I get off next."

Florence: "I can't see what those two see in Jack Edwards. I'd be more particular. I guess I'll have to leave you, Mamie. So long."

Mamie, (to herself): "They're all crazy about Jack. He is nice. I'm going to the movie with him tonight. Shoot, I guess there's nothing to do but study my algebra lesson now. This car will never get to my street."

SILENCE.

It is old stuff that beauty is only skin deep. But where did the girls get the notion that it is knee-length?

JUST FOLKS

BY EDGAR A. GUEST

The Silent Man

We never guessed the woes he had,
Nor how he suffered when alone,
That now and then his heart was sad
To very few was ever known;
He'd hear us tell our tales of care
And utter words of kindly cheer,
Yet of the griefs he'd had to bear
No word from him we'd ever hear.

That he had grieved and he had wept
To us it never once occurred;
Unto himself his hurts he kept,
Though many a sympathetic word
He spoke to us to sooth our woe;
He'd let us tell our sorrows through,
Yet very seldom did he show
That he was deep in trouble, too.

By chance we learned behind his smile
And patient way we'd grown to love,
Despair was gnawing all the while;
A grief he'd made no mention of
Was his to carry and his heart
Wore deeper scars than we had known,
And still as one who plays a part
He bravely bore his cross alone.

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THE STOWMARKET MYSTERY

By Louis Tracy

(Copyright, 1904, R. F. Fenno Co.)

Continued from Last Week

CHAPTER XVII.

"Cherchez La Femme."

The three men drove to Stowmarket in the same vehicle, the grooms returning in the second dogcart.

On the way Robert Frazer—who may be desingnated by his second surname to distinguish him from his cousin—was anxious to learn what had caused the present recrudescence of inquiry into Alan's death. This was easily explained by David, and Brett took care to confine the conversation to general details.

Frazer was naturally keen to discover how the barrister came to be so well posted in his movements, and David listened eagerly while Brett related enough of the stationmaster's story to clear up that point.

Hume broke in with a laugh:

"That shows why he was so unusually attentive when I arrived this evening. He spotted me getting out of the train, and would not leave me until I was clear of the station. He was evidently determined to ascertain my exact identity without any mistake, for he began by asking if I were not Mr. David Hume-Frazer, laying stress on my Christian name. It surprised me a little, because I thought the old chap knew me well."

"Are you absolutely certain that there are no other members of your family in existence?" asked Brett.

"It depends on how many of our precious collection you are acquainted with," said Robert.

"The only person Mr. Brett is not acquainted with is my father," exclaimed David stiffly.

"I was not alluding to him, of course. Indeed, I had no individual specially in my mind."

"Surely you had some motive for your remark?" questioned David. "The only remaining relative is Mrs. Capella."

"There again—how do you define the word 'relative.' I suppose, Mr. Brett, you are fairly well posted in the history of our house?"

"Yes."

"Well, has it never struck you that there was something queer about the manner of my Uncle Alan's marriage—Margaret's father, I mean?"

"Perhaps. What do you know about it?"

"Nothing definite. When I was a midshipman on board the Northumberland I have a lively recollection of a fiendish row between a man named Somers and another officer who passed some chaffing remark about my respected uncle's goings on in Italy. The officer in question had forgotten, or never knew, that Sir Alan married Somers' sister—they were Bristol people, I think—but he stuck to it that Sir Alan had an Italian wife. He had seen her."

Brett was driving, Frazer sitting by his side, and David leaning over the rail from the back seat. Had a bombshell dropped in their midst the two others could not have been more startled by Robert's chance observation.

"Good Heavens!" cried Hume, "why has Capella gone to Italy?"

"That question may soon be answered," said Brett.

"Was that one of the other reasons you hinted at in the library when telling us why you did not volunteer evidence at the trial?" he asked Robert.

"It was. The cat is out of the bag now. I did not know where the affair might end, so I held my tongue. It also accounts for my unwillingness to meet Capella. I am very fond of Margaret. She is straight as a die, and I would not do anything to cause her suffering. In a word, I let sleeping dogs lie. If you can manage your matrimonial affairs without all this fuss, Davie, I should advise you to do the same."

"What are you hinting at? What new mystery is this?" cried Hume.

"Let us keep to solid fact for the present," interposed the barrister. "I wish I had met you sooner, Mr. Frazer. I would be nearing Naples now, instead of entering Stowmarket. Have you any further information?"

"None whatever. Even what I have told you is the recollection of a boy who did not understand what the row was about. Where does it lead us, anyhow? What is known about Capella?"

"Very little. Unless I am much mistaken, he will soon tell us a good deal himself. I am beginning to credit him with the possession of more brains and powers of malice than I was at first inclined to admit. He is a dangerous customer."

"Look here," exclaimed Robert angrily. "If that wretched little Italian annoys Margaret in any way I will crack his doll's head."

They reached the hotel, where a room was obtained for Frazer, and David undertook to equip him out of his portmanteau. Brett left the cousins to arrange matters, and hurried to his sitting room, where a number of telegrams awaited him.

Those from Hume he barely glanced at. David could tell his own story.

There were three from Winter. The first, dispatched at 1:10 p. m., read:

"Capella and valet left by club train. Nothing doing Japanese."

The second was timed 4:30 p. m.:

"Jap, accompanied by tall, fat man, left home 2:45. They separated Piccadilly Circus. Followed Jap—("Oh, Winter!" groaned Brett)—and saw him enter British Museum. Four o'clock he met fat man again outside Tottenham Court Road Tube Station. They drove west in hansom. Heard address given. Am wiring before going same place."

This telegram had been handed in at an Oxford Street office.

The third, 7:30 p. m.:

"Nothing important. All quiet. Wiring before your local office closes."

The facetious Winter had signed these messages "Snow."

Brett promptly wrote a telegram to the detective's private address:

"Your signature should have been 'Frost.' If that fat man turns up again follow him. Call on Jap and endeavor to see his wife. You may be sadder but wiser. Meet me Victoria Street, 5 p. m. today."

He called a waiter and gave instructions that this message should be sent off early next morning. Then he lit a cigar to soothe his disappointment.

"I cannot emulate the House of Commons bird," he mused, "or at this moment I would be close to Jiro's flat in Kensington, and at the same time crossing Lombardy in an express. What an ass Winter is, to be sure, whenever a subtle stroke requires an ingenious guard. Jiro dresses his wife in male attire and sends her on an errand he dare not perform himself. The fact that they depart together from their residence is diplomatic in itself. If they are followed, the watcher is sure to shadow Jiro and leave his unknown friend. Just imagine Winter dodging Jiro around the Rosetta Stone or Phoebus Apollo, while the woman is visiting someone or some place of infinite value to our search. It is positively maddening."

Perhaps, in his heart, Brett felt that Winter was not so greatly to blame. The sudden appearance on the scene of a portly and respectable stranger was disconcerting, but could hardly serve as an excuse for leaving Jiro's trail at the point of bifurcation.

Moreover, it is difficult to suspect stout people of criminal tendencies. Winter had the best of negative evidence that they are not adapted for "treasons, spoils, and stratagems." Even a convicted rogue, if corpulent, demands sympathy.

But Brett was very sore. He stamped about the room and kicked unoffending chairs out of the way. His unfailing instinct told him that a rare opportunity had been lost. It was well for Winter that he was beyond reach of the barrister's tongue. A valid defense would have availed him naught.

David entered.

"I just seized an opportunity—" he commenced eagerly, but Brett leveled his cigar at him as if it were a revolver.

"You want to tell me," he cried, "that before you were two hours in Portsmouth you ascertained Frazer's address from an old friend. You caught the next train for London, went to his lodgings, encountered a nagging landlady, and found that your cousin had taken his overcoat to the pawnbroker's to raise money for his fare to Stowmarket. You drove frantically to Liverpool Street, interviewed a smart platform inspector, and he told you—"

"That all I had to do was ask Brett, and he would not only give me a detailed history of my own actions, but produce the very man he sent me in search of," interrupted David, laughing. Nothing the barrister said or did could astonish him now.

"What has upset you?" he went on. "I hope I made no mistakes."

"None. Your conduct has been irreproachable. But you erred greatly in the choice of your parents. There are far too many Hume-Frazers in existence."

"Please tell me what is the matter?"

"Read those." Brett tosed the detective's telegrams across the table.

Hume puzzled over them.

"I think we ought to know who that fat man was," he said.

"We do know. She is a fat woman, the ex-barmaid from Ipswich. Next time, they will send out the youthful Jiro in a perambulator."

"But why are you so furious about it?" demanded Hume. "Was it so important to ascertain what she did during that hour and a quarter?"

"Important! It is the only real clue given us since 'Rabbit Jack' saw a man like you standing motionless in the avenue."

CHAPTER XVIII.

Further Complications.

Brett devoted half an hour to Frazer's business affairs next morning. David was present, and the result of the conclave is shown by the following excerpt from a letter the barrister sent by them to Mrs. Capella, incidentally excusing his personal attendance at the Hall:

"In my opinion, your cousin David and you should guarantee the payment of the land-tax on Mr. Frazer's estate—£650 per annum—for five years. You should give him a reasonable sum to rehabilitate his wardrobe and pay the few small debts he has contracted, besides allowing him a weekly stipend to enable him to live properly for another year. I will place him in touch with sound financial people, who will exploit his estate if they think the prospects are good, and you can co-operate in the scheme, if you are so advised by your solicitors, with whom the financiers I recommend will carry weight. Failing support in England, Mr. Frazer says he can make his own way in the Argentine if helped in the manner I suggest."

He explained to the two young men that his movements that day would be uncertain. If the ladies still adhered to their resolve to proceed to London forthwith, the whole party would stay at the same hotel. In that event they should send a telegram to his Victoria Street chambers, and he would dine with them. Otherwise they must advise him of their whereabouts.

Left to himself, he curled up in an arm chair, knotting his legs and arms in the most uncomfortable manner, and rendering it necessary to crane his neck before he could remove a cigar from his lips.

In such posture, alternated with rapid walking about the room, he could think best.

The waiter, not knowing that the barrister had remained in the hotel, came in to see what trifles might be strewed about table or mantelpiece in the shape of loose "smokes" or broken hundreds of cigarets.

Like most people, his eyes could only observe the expected, the normal. No one was standing or sitting in the usual way—therefore the room was empty.

A box of Brett's Turkish cigarets was lying temptingly open. He advanced.

"Touch those, and I slay you," snapped Brett. "Your miserable life is not worth one of them."

The man jumped as if he had been fired at. The barrister, coiled up like a boa-constrictor, glared at him in mock fury.

"I beg pardon, sir," he blurted out, "I didn't know you was in."

"Evidently. A more expert scoundrel would have stolen them under my very nose. You are a bungler."

"I really wasn't goin' to take any, sir—just put them away, that is all."

"In that packet," said Brett, "there are eighty-seven cigarets. I count them, because each one is an epoch. I don't count the cigars in the sideboard."

"I prefer cigars," grinned the waiter.

"So I see. You have two of the landlord's best 'sixpennies' in the left pocket of your waistcoat at this moment."

"Well, if you ain't a fair scorcher," the man gasped.

"What, you rascal, would you call me names?"

Brett writhed convulsively, and the waiter backed towards the door.

"No, sir, I was callin' no names. We don't get too many perks—we waiters don't, sir. I was out of bed until one o'clock and up again at six. That's wot I call hard work, sir."

"It is outrageous. Take five cigars."

"Thank you kindly, sir."

"What kept you up till one o'clock?"

"Gossip, sir—just silly gossip. All about Mrs. Capella, an' Beechcroft, an' I don't know wot."

"Indeed, and who was so interested in these topics as to spoil your beauty sleep?"

"The new gentleman, who is so like Mr. David."

"How very interesting," said the barrister, who certainly did not expect this revelation.

"It seems to be interesting to 'im, sir. You see, the 'ouse is pretty full, and when you brought 'im 'ere last night, sir, the bookkeeper gev' 'im the room next to mine. Last thing, I fetched the gentleman a Scotch an' soda an' a cigar. 'E said 'e could not sleep, and 'e was lookin' at a fotygraf. I caught a squint at it, an' I sez, 'Beg parding, sir, but ain't that Mrs. Capella—Miss Margaret as used to be?' That started 'im."

"You surprise me."

"And the gentleman surprised me," confided the waiter, whose greatest conversational effects were produced by quickly adapting remarks made to him. "P'r'aps you are not aware, sir, that the lady's Eye-talian 'usban' ain't no good?"

"I have heard something of the sort."

"Then you've heard something right, sir. They do say as 'ow 'e beats 'er."

"The scoundrel!"

"Scoundrel! You should 'ave seen No. 18 last night when I tole 'im that. My conscience! 'E went on awful, 'e did. 'E seemed to be mad about Mrs. Capella."

"He is her cousin."

"Cousin! That won't wash, sir, beggin' your pardon. You an' me knows better than that."

"I tell you again he is her cousin."

The waiter absent-mindedly dusted the back of a chair.

"Well, sir, it isn't for the likes of me to be contradictious, but I've got two sisters an' 'arf-a-dozen cousins, an' I don't go kissin' their pictures an' swearin' to 'ave it out with their 'usbin's."

"Oh, come now. You are romancing."

"Not a bit, sir. When I went to my room I—er—'eard 'im."

"Is there a wooden partition between No. 18 and your room?"

"Yes, sir."

"And cracks—large ones?"

"Yes, sir. But why you should—oh, I see! Excuse me, sir; I thought I 'eard a bell."

The waiter hurried off, and Brett unwound himself.

"So Robert is in love with Margaret," he said, laughing unmirthfully. "Was there ever such a tangle! If I indulge in a violent flirtation with Miss Layton, and I persuade Winter to ogle Mrs. Jiro, the affair should be artistically complete."

The conceit brought Ipswich to his mind. He was convinced that the main line of inquiry lay in the direction of Mr. Numagawa Jiro and the curious masquerading of his colossal spouse.

He had vaguely intended to visit the local police. Now he made up his mind to go to Ipswich and thence to London. Further delay at Stowmarket was useless.

Before his train quitted the station he made matters right with the stationmaster by explaining to him the identity of the two men who had attracted his attention the previous evening. Somehow, the barrister imagined that the third visitant of that fateful New Year's Eve two years ago would not trouble the neighborhood again. Herein he was mistaken.

At the country town he experienced little difficulty in learning the antecedents of Mrs. Numagawa Jiro.

In the first hotel he entered he found a young lady behind the bar who was not only well acquainted with Mrs. Jiro, but remembered the circumstances of the courtship.

"The fact is," she explained, "there are a lot of silly girls about who think every man with a dark skin is a prince in his own country if he only wears a silk hat and patent leather boots."

"Is that all?" said Brett.

"All what?" cried the girl. "Oh, don't be stupid! I mean when they are well dressed. Princes, indeed! Catch me marrying a nigger."

"But Japanese are not niggers."

"Well, they're not my sort, anyhow. And fancy a great gawk like Flossie Bird taking on with a little man who doesn't reach up to her elbow. It was simply ridiculous. What did you say her name is now?"

He gave the required information, and went on:

"Had Mr. Jiro any other friends in Ipswich to your knowledge?"

"He didn't know a soul. He was here for the Assizes, about some case, I think. Oh, I remember—the 'Stowmarket Mystery'—and he stayed at the hotel where Flossie was engaged. How she ever came to take notice of him, I can't imagine. She was a queer sort of girl—used to wear bloomers, and get off her bike to clout the small boys who chi-iked at her."

"Do her people live here?"

"Yes, and a rare old row they made about her marriage—for she is married, I will say that for her. But why are you so interested in her?"

To Be Continued

MUTT AND JEFF—Jeff's Social Register Is Dun and Bradstreets

By "BUD" FISHER

LISTEN MR. FLORIST, DELIVER TWO DOZEN OF YOUR FINEST ROSES TO MISS SPIVIS AT ONCE AND CHARGE 'EM TO MY ACCOUNT!
HELLO CANDY STORE! DELIVER FIVE POUNDS OF YOUR FINEST CHOCOLATES TO MISS SPIVIS AT ONCE AND CHARGE TO MY ACCOUNT!
WHO'S THIS MISS SPIVIS, JEFF?
SHE'S A COUSIN OF JOE'S! I MET HER A WEEK AGO, MUTT, AND OLD DAN CUPID HAS ME HANGING ON THE ROPES! IT'S WONDERFUL TO BE IN LOVE, AND I'VE SURE GOT IT BAD!
SO I SEE! WAS IT LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT ON YOUR PART?
NO!
?
I DIDN'T KNOW UNTIL THE SECOND TIME I MET HER THAT SHE WAS AN HEIRESS!
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Questions and Answers

Rule 1—Your real name and post-office address must be on the sheet with the question. Initials will not do. 2. Ask only one question; that is, there may be several questions on the same subject, but no different subject. 3. This department will not give the address of any person or firm, nor answer as to the reliability of any person or firm not tell where you can buy anything—nothing in the way of free advertising. 4. We reserve the right to decline to answer any question not of general interest to a majority of our readers. 5. We will not answer any question involving dogma or doctrine or Biblican interpretations; no prices of old coins or stamps; no arithmetical or grammatical questions.

Johnstown Flood

Please tell me something in these columns about the Johnstown flood.—M. D., Pittman, W. Va.

The disastrous flood at Johnstown, Pa., occurred on May 31, 1889. It was the result of the destruction of a dam across South Fork, a small branch of the Conemaugh river. Because of heavy rains which had fallen, the mountain streams became raging torrents. The dam was constructed to keep back the waters of Conemaugh lake. This lake was two and one-half miles long, one and one-half miles wide and averaged 50 feet in depth, though in some places it was 100 feet deep. It was about 12 miles from the city in a direct line, but along the river the distance was increased by five or six miles. Shortly after the dam burst the valley was flooded and Johnstown and several small villages were inundated. The loss of lives was 2,235 or more, and the loss of property was estimated to be about $10,000,000 or more. Aid for the sufferers came from all parts of the country.

Robert Louis Stevenson

Can you give me a short biography of Robert Louis Stevenson?—E. F., Logansport, Ind.

Robert Louis Balfour Stevenson, the Scottish novelist, poet and essayist was born November 13, 1850, and died December 31, 1894. He went through Edinburgh University, was called to the Scottish bar, and was admitted a member of the faculty of advocates in 1875. But literature was his real vocation. His works are numerous and make interesting reading. Stevenson's health was always precarious, and after various changes of residence, including one at Saranac Lake in the Adirondacks, he went to the Southern Pacific in 1888 and finally settled at Samoa, where he died.

George Bernard Shaw

Please give me a short biography in this department of George Bernard Shaw.—M. L., Bourbon, Ind.

George Bernard Shaw, the dramatist and publicist, was born in Dublin on July 26, 1856. His father George Carr Shaw was a retired civil servant, and Lucinda Elizabeth Gurley, his mother, was a good musician. Bernard Shaw attended school in Dublin and began earning his living when 15 years old. For five years he clerked in the office of a British land agent but in 1876 came to London with his family. Three years later he was working in a telephone company office. In 1884 Shaw became one of the founders of the Fabian society. To the volume of Fabian Essays in Socialism he contributed the Basis of Socialism and the Transition of Social Democracy. From 1886 to 1894 he wrote musical and art criticisms for the World, Truth and Star. The next two years he contributed dramatic criticism to the Saturday Review, attention being attracted to his writings by the vigor and severity of his judgment.

His first play was written in 1892. It was Widower's Houses, produced at the Independent Theatre. From 1880 to 1883 Shaw published several novels as The Irrational Knot, Love Among the Artists, Cashel Byron's Profession, and An Unsocial Socialist.. In 1898 he published two volumes of Plays Pleasant and Unpleasant, containing the Widower's Houses, Philanderer, Mrs. Warren's Profession, You Never Can Tell, Arms and the Man, Candida, The Man of Destiny. In 1890 appeared Three Plays for Puritans.

Shaw is fearless, witty, vigorous, a master of irony, and is unhampered by the traditions of either the theatre or of literature. His plays appeal to a limited public.

Stephen B. Elkins

Please give me a short sketch of the life of Stephen B. Elkins.—E. S. L., Otto, W. Va.

Stephen Benton Elkins, the American politician, was born in Ohio, September 26, 1841, had died January 4, 1911. His family removed to Missouri when he was a child, and there he attended the public schools, graduating from the University of Missouri in 1860. After his graduation he enlisted in the Union army. In 1866 he married Sallie Davis. In 1863 Elkins was admitted to the bar and the same year became a member of the territorial legislature. Later he became the territorial district attorney and then the territorial attorney general. Still later he was United States district attorney. From 1873 to 1877 he was a delegate in congress from the territory of New Mexico. He then removed to West Virginia. There he became largely interested in coal mines and railroads, founding a town bearing his name. Ever since 1884 Elkins was prominent in presidential campaigns. In 1891 he was made secretary of war, holding the position for two years. In 1894 he was elected senator from West Virfginia for the first time, being also elected in 1900 and 1907.

WALLACE WOULD DEVELOP U. S. AID TO FARM MARKET

The Department of Agriculture should lend the same aid to farmres in marketing their crops as it does to their production, Secretary Wallace declared in an address before the Farmers' Grain Marketing Committee of Seventeen. "There is just as much reason," he said, "why the department should asist the farmer in developing methods of marketing his crops efficiently as that it should assist him in increasing his production."

Study of improved marketing methods as well as of conditions the farmer should understand to produce intelligently and "adjust his production to the needs of consumption," the secretary said, "are proper functions of the department."

The Effects of Opiates.

THAT INFANTS are peculiarly susceptible to opium and its various preparations, all of which are narcotic, is well known. Even in the smallest doses, if continued, these opiates cause changes in the functions and growth of the cells which are likely to become permanent, causing imbecility, mental perversion, a craving for alcohol or narcotics in later life. Nervous diseases, such as intractable nervous dyspepsia and lack of staying powers are a result of dosing with opiates or narcotics to keep children quiet in their infancy. The rule among physicians is that children should never receive opiates in the smallest doses for more than a day at a time, and only then if unavoidable.

The administration of Anodynes, Drops, Cordials, Soothing Syrups and other narcotics to children by any but a physician cannot be too strongly decried, and the druggist should not be a party to it. Children who are ill need the attention of a physician, and it is nothing less than a crime to dose them willfully with narcotics.

Castoria contains no narcotics if it bears the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.

Genuine Castoria always bears the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher

COULD HARDLY EAT ANYTHING UNTIL HE USED PE-RU-NA

NEIGHBORS FOUND IT A WONDERFUL MEDICINE

"I was weak and tired and could hardly eat anything until I used Pe-ru-na. Soon my appetite was good and my strength returned. I told my neighbors and every one of them found it a wonderful medicine. You can always get a dose of Pe-ru-na at my house no matter what the war tax."

Mr. T. N. Waggoner, Box 25, Bragg City, Mo.

Catarrh of the stomach and bowels is among the many forms of catarrhal diseases from which a large number of people needlessly suffer. Fifty years of usefulness is the guarantee behind

PE-RU-NA

Tablets or Liquid — Sold Everywhere

American Legion News and Views

THE VARIOUS campaigns in aid of the wounded and disabled veterans now raging in New York have developed a bitter contest between the American Legion and the National Disabled Soldiers' League, in which the league scored the first wallop, but the Legion has come back with a punch which it hopes will be a knock-out.

The league, headed by Capt. George Gillin, has promoted National Disabled Soldiers' week, which will be celebrated May 26 to June 4, and persuaded Governor Miller to issue a proclamation making the affair semi-official. The Legion, through State Commander Chas. G. Blakeslee, has decided that the Disabled Week idea is all right, but that it shall not be the occasion for soliciting money. In fact, the Legion opposes any solicitation of funds for the disabled through Capt. Gillin's league or otherwise, and Commander Charles G. Blakeslee, of the Legion in this state, has issued a bulletin warning the public against contributing money "ostensibly for the care of the disabled."

Maintaining contact with the main body of the American Legion by native runners, a traveling post of the Legion today is moving through the jungles of Portugese, West Africa. The post is the first on the Dark Continent and its establishment leaves Australia as the only continent which has not been penetrated by the Legion. Twenty-three explorers for oil, headed by Robert H. Wamsley, fell to discussing the war on the trail out of Loanda, Angola, and it was discovered that 11 of the number were ex-service men. Wamsley communicated with Akron, Ohio, post of the Legion, which arranged to obtain the necessary papers from national headquarters to establish the African post. The explorers will remain in the wilds for three years.

Lieut. Col. Alexander E. Anderson, formerly of the 69th New York infantry, is no longer a member of the American Legion.

Following an investigation by the New York County committee, he was expelled for the part he took in the recent Horrors of the Rhine meeting in Madison Square Garden.

When the 67th congress met April 11 in special session there were 23 veterans of the world war on the rolls.

In the senate there is Senator Davis Elkins of West Virginia, the only member of the upper house who saw service during the recent guerre. In the house there are 22 vets to answer "Yo" when the roll is called.

To complete the issue of the Victory medal a group of officers and field clerks have been detailed by the war department to devote their entire energies toward stimulating interest in these awards and facilitating their distribution. The officers, 24 in number, have been selected from the general recruiting service of the army, which has been temporarily discontinued.

Land settlement preference rights for veterans of the world war will be a feature of the new reclamation bill which the Western States' Reclamation association will offer to congress. The old Smith-Fletcher bill of the last congress has been abandoned, and a new bill drafted which will give at least a 60-day preference to ex-soldiers in taking up government reclaimed land. The new bill will also provide that at least one-half of all land reclaimed by the government shall be reserved for veterans.

Argonne post of Des Moines, Iowa, puts forth George Leander, a new member, as the Legionnaire with the most bars on his Victory medal. He has eight. With a supply train attached to the Mallet Reserve of the French army, Leander took part in the Somme defensive, the Aisne, Montididier-Noyon, Champagne-Marne, Aisne-Marne, Somme and Oise-Aisne offensives and saw service in a recognized defensive sector. He was overseas 17 months and took part, unwounded, in all the actions listed.

How to Heal Leg Sores

A new illustrated book sent free to readers by the successful specialist, D. H. J. Whittier, Suite 146, 421 East 11th St., Kansas City, Mo., tells how to be rid of leg sores by using his unique discovery, result of 32 years specializing. Writ for your free copy today.—Adv.

Compulsory Marriage

Alarmed at the growing depopulation of Turkey, the Kemalist (Nationalist) parliament at Angora, Turkey, is considering a bill to compel all men aged 25 or more to marry unless prevented by health reasons.

FASHIONS BY MARTHA HOLDEN

TURN their heads and not face facts as they will, numbers 9571 and 9381 might as well acknowledge that the summer girl, if not yet arrived, is well on her way to us. If she is as attractive as 9651 we will be glad to see her, although, while her hat simply drips with flowers, she will keep her parasol down. Seeing her beads, which she is handling so daintily, reminds us that lockets and composition floral ornaments in lovely colors are being worn on cords or ribbons, with attractive slides to match. There is a fad, too, for wearing little jade, or ivory idols in the same way. There is a distinctly Chinese note in the modish trinkets. Another fad makes itself known in the strapped pumps and oxfords, some very smart and pretty and others very ugly. But we are thankful for one thing, the very smartest of them have low heels, either the extremely low, broad heel, the Cuban, or the "Baby Louis."

Petticoats for little girls only are worn with the frilliest of frocks. Instead Dame Fashion has decided that they must wear bloomers. We heave a sigh of relief when a fashion is set that is sensible, as well as attractive. Many of the quaint frocks—some of them of washable pongee—are smocked, with sort of little cuffs of smocking about the knees of the bloomers. These little bloomer dresses refuse to go a step farther than half way to the knee, letting the bloomers to complete the costume—and abbreviation of the old skirt and pantalet effect.

Black taffeta, with wide collar and cuffs of lace or embroidery is very popular for the bloomer suits, especially for traveling, motoring, or any time that it is desirable to save laundry. They always look crisp and cool and perky.

Ruffles, wide tucks, pleatings, pointed bodices and drooping plumes all are reminiscent of the fashions Godey's magazine used to depict so colorfully on rice paper, but with the objectional wasp-waists and long skirts left out. Emancipated ankles refuse to return to the oblivion of the extremely long skirt but no one knows how soon they will be putting the poor "white wings"—street sweepers—out of business again. Just as we declare a thing isn't, Fashion says it is, so we whisper these observations to avoid a dispute.

But there is one thing certain—at present—diaphanous blouses are doomed. If the thinner materials are worn, some sort of modesty and grace are maintained by under garments. It is no longer the "proper thing" to be improper and evening gown effects on employes of factory, office and store, in the morning, are quite frowned upon. Instead, a trim, well-groomed effect is sought after as fervently as ever was the bizarre, and one is not so often made nervous by contemplating a whole gown whose sole support seems to be a slender shoulder strap. Talk about the sword of Damocles.

For many seasons, sports things have been displayed in lovely color combinations, but never so gorgeous as now. The jersey sports coat of plain material, striped, plaided or checked skirts and bright hued hat, expensively simple, beggar description. The henna shades, including all the modifications of orange and tomato red, are the most popular just now, but it is safe to predict that after a while, one will take refuge in the softer, cooler greens and blues which have their share of admirers and followers right now.

Taffetas in combination with summer materials have much vogue, so have the Canton crepes. Silk and organdie, or eyelet embroidery may be funny to the ears, but not to the eyes. They really are wonderfully lovely and there is nothing much more satisfactory for summer.

No. 9381 — Lady's Dress — Cut in sizes 34 to 44 inches bust measure. Size 36 requires 4⅛ yards 36-inch material, with ¼ yard 20-inch contrasting.

No. 9571—Lady's One-Piece Dress —Cut in sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. Size 36 requires 3⅞ yards 36-inch material, with ⅜ yard 36-inch contrasting.

No. 9163—Girl's Sacque Apron—Cut in sizes 12 to 14 years. Size 8 requires 2¼ yards 32 or 36 inch material.

No. 9461—Child's Rompers—Cut in sizes 1, 2 and 4 years. Size 4 requires 1⅞ yards 27-inch or 1⅝ yards 36-inch material, with ¼ yard 18-inch contrasting and 2⅝ yards binding.

No. 9651 — Lady's Dress — Cut in sizes 36 to 42 inches bust measure. Size 36 requires 4⅛ yards 36-inch material, with ⅞ yard 7-inch contrasting for chemisette and 3¾ yards binding.

The Blade will supply its readers with patterns of the above designs at the rate of 15 cents for each pattern. These patterns are stylish and perfect fitting. All seams allowed. Full directions for making. In ordering give number, size, age, etc.

MARTHA HOLDEN BOOKS OF FASHIONS issued quarterly, 10c a copy. Address: Pattern Department, The Blade, Toledo, Ohio.

OUR PEACE PAGE

RED BLOOD AND BLUE

BY MARTHA HOLDEN.

WHITE LILAC drooped heavily on its stem. Life always had seemed so colorless. It was more fragrant than Tulip, sweeter than Harebell, as pure as Plum Blossom before it had been wooed by Sun and Wind and Rain and had dropped to the ground. Yet it envied Tulip and Harebell flaunting their scarlet and blue draperies below, but never Plum Blossom—oh, no, not Plum Blossom, too coldly aloof!

Tulip had blushed gloriously because of the "lovering" of a philandering bee. Harebell was just a bit of the blue sky come down to earth for our hearts' delight.

"But," sighed the pensive White Lilac, "they have lived and seen and known—perhaps, even suffered."

The family tree of White Lilac is one of which anyone might boast, for had not her forbears grown against the garden wall at Mount Vernon when the famous Cherry Tree was "cut down in the days of its youth" to sprout anew in song and story? Why, it even had brushed against the strong, sweet face of the Father of Our Country and one of its sweetest clusters taken between his hands and caressed as tenderly as if it had been the face of a child. Something better to boast about than if one's ancestor had been knighted by that Teutonic king who sat on the throne of England at the same time. Its English cousins had peeped into the narrow slits of windows penetrating the thick walls of Kenilworth Castle and actually had seen the sad, flower-like face of Amy Robsart. Oh, in a way, of course, White Lilac had lived too, but always aloofly, aristocratically. It seemed so far above the soil from which it had sprung. And so, White Lilac drooped wearily against the garden wall. In its secret heart it might envy Tulip and Harebell, but they were so far beneath it that it would never do to confess to a longing so plebeian.

Then one day Rambler Rose, afflicted or blessed—as you may look at it—with wanderlust, and preferring the life of a tramp to the cultivated circles in which its cousins, Tea Rose and American Beauty, moved, clambered up over the garden wall "for to see."

"How dare you, sir!" White Lilac replied to his cheery greeting, and then turned disdainfully away toward South Wind, who was gently fanning her and paying her court. At the wanderer's boldness White Lilac shuddered. How was Rambler Rose to guess that the shudder was only the little thrill at the approach of adventure?

White Lilac had been educated in the School for Exclusives where one is taught that just being plain and natural is vulgar and must be suppressed.

"Your fragrance and beauty and white, white soul have enticed me up and up," cried Rambler Rose, quite undaunted by her coldness. "I must hide from the garden shears, which even now you may hear demanding that I come down, but I shall visit you again, Lady Lilac, when it is safe. One glance at you and my own life has become dear to me, for I would offer it to you!"

Not waiting to know if she would deign a reply, the bold intruder twisted himself adroitly under screening foliage. Of course White Lilac "hoped he wouldn't come again, the bold thing!" And yet at every excuse given her by the visiting wind, she swayed around toward the garden wall with all the appearance of dignity and indifference in the world. By some strange chance, always her eyes were directed toward the very spot where she last had seen the intruder.

If he came again she just knew that she would be so frightened and would tremble so that she would drop her blossoms. But he didn't come that day—nor the next. And then, there he was again—bold as you please!

She had been taught never to talk to strange roses, especially the rambling ones, but surely, she thought, there could not be any harm in just answering his greeting, which seemed to be less vulgar than when she had met him the time before.

So it began!

Tulip "shut up about it" at night, but gossiped all day. Harebell—well, we'd better not repeat what she said about it, night or day. "Least said, soonest mended," is a motto that should be hung over every garden gate.

Later, when the Moon came suddenly around a cloud-corner, she found them, well—not far apart.

"I have no fragrance of my own," Rambler Rose softened his rough voice for her, "I lost my fragrance by rambling about so. But you have enough sweetness for two. I can show you life, White Lilac. I may have escaped often from the trellises of convention, but my heart of a rose is quite untouched by any other flower, however beautiful. And it's yours, my sweet."

So, from day to day the wooing went on, and the skies were never so blue, nor the air so sweet, until, at last, he won a kiss from White Lilac. And then White Lilac forgot that her blood was blue, and her ancestors did not seem to mean so much to her as her descendants.

Of their wedded love Purple Lilac was born, and pulsing through it was the sturdy, red blood of Rambler Rose and the aristocratic, blue blood of White Lilac. Losing none of her fragrance and grace, Purple Lilac is stronger, sturdier and more beautiful than its mother. And did you ever hear of Purple Lilac envying Tulip or Harebell—no, indeed! Its life has the color of both.

The Veil and Its Care

The veil is a thing of beauty and so dainty that it requires more or less care. The matter of caring for a veil so that it will always appear fresh and new can be given in a few simple rules. First, never roll your veil and be careful to rumple them as little as possible in handling. When you take your veil off shake it out gently, spread it out flat and fold with care, remembering that the fewer folds you make the fewer creases you will have to smooth out the next time you use it.

If in windy weather your veils pick up a great deal of dust they should be cleaned by laying them out flat on a smoth surface, such as a bed or table and brushing them with a smooth velvet brush. Of course special consideration must be given to veils with chenille or velvet dots; they must be shaken or brushed with more than ordinary care.

In putting on or taking off the veil, lift it lightly and never pull it over rough straws or millinery ornaments. Even a strong, well-made veil will not stand rough handling and for that reason special pains should be exercised not to tear it on the head or point of the hatpin or some other obstruction. The hatpin should always be withdrawn before attempting to remove the veil.

MERRY-GO-ROUND

Art thou weary, tender heart?
Be glad of pain.
In sorrow sweetest things will grow
As flowers in rain.
God watches, and thou wilt have sun
When clouds their perfect work have done.
—Mary Frances Butts.

THE AMERICAN "CREED."

"One Country, One Flag, One Language." When I read this article in the Rural Welfare columns of March third, I wanted to add to these sentiments that in every club, lodge, school and church the following American Creed should have a place in the order of exercises, the same as in the Women's Relief Corps. The Americans' Creed—"I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people, whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed, a democracy in republic, a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States, a perfect Union, one and inseparable, established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice and humanity, for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes. I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag and to defend it against all enemies."—A Corps President.

SOUND ADVICE.

It is rather late to attempt to advise Lonely Heart, but our time was so completely filled when we first read her letter, that we could not write. Since then we have noticed that several have attempted to advise her and it is apparent that no two have held the same viewpoint. Now, dear Lonely Heart, may we speak plainly and directly to you? We doubt very much whether or not any two people have read your letter with the same understanding. And we also doubt whether even a single one has understood it just as you meant it. Even in looking upon the same scenes, or hearing the words, the understanding of their meaning is so different. If you and your lover have been separated by a cruel misunderstading—as your letter indicates—I pity you both from the depths of my heart and truly hope that you may be re-united sometime. But if he does not love you, or cares more for someone else and just pretended to take offense at your missive rather than tell you the truth, I certainly congratulate you upon your timely escape. And you should congratulate yourself rather than to bemoan your fate. No true girl wants to marry a man after she learns that he does not want her, and I'm sure that if he had told you that he no longer cared for you, that you would have given him up without a murmur. But let us hope that this man to whom you refer, is honest and true in his opinions—that he really has misunderstood your letters. We don't want to think that any man would be so base as to invent an untruth in order to sneak away from a girl rather than to ask to be honorably released. You ask if it would be right to marry another and make the best of life, or seek some profession and go through life alone? I certainly do think it would be right to try to make the best of life, but I question very seriously whether you would be doing that by marrying someone you did not love, rather than to seek a profession. You are young yet, so I would advise that you seek a good profession in order to be self-supporting and self-dependent. Don't let this disappointment weaken your good resolutions, but rather let it have a strengthening and refining influence upon your future life. Cultivate the acquaintance of worthy men. If you find, in after years, that you cannot love another, I presume that you will decide that there are worse things in life than being an "old maid." I know that it is nice to dream of a pleasant home of your own, but, my dear child, can you for a moment think that a home could be more pleasant if you had to share it with a man you did not love? I am an "old maid" thirty-five years old. You may judge for yourself whether or not my advice is worthy of acceptance—Violet of Virginia.

BACK AGAIN.

I ought to be broken-hearted for a few have attempted to call the role and not one has called my name, although I have been listening and ready with a Scriptural verse, "And I will answer when they call, yea will answer before I hear their voice." I love the Peace Page and the Poet's Corner. When times were so hard and I was knitting socks for the soldiers, I did not have time to read, nor money to pay my subscription, and tongue cannot tell how I have missed the good old Toledo Blade. There are just two facts that I find consoling—first, I was doing my duty as I saw it, and second, I do not know just how much I have missed, anyway. I fear I have missed "a plenty." My last letter to you was written several years ago and told about my sons going to the World war, as many another mother, sister and sweetheart were doing at that time. But God has been so good to us. Our boys, although they were in active service, came home alive and well, with not a scar to mar their dear features. But, alas, some of our neighbors were not so fortunate, their sons returned home crippled for life. Others made the supreme sacrifice and answered the roll-call in that world beyond. Thus, when I rejoice over the return of my boys, I do not forget to sympathize with those whose fate is different from mine. I sincerely hope that I have not been forgotten by all the Peace Page family as—St. Joe Sister, on the old St. Joe river.

WANTS YOUR IDEA.

We look upon The Blade family as being a highly intelligent class of people. Therefore, we wish to place a certain subject before them for discussion. An elderly woman, her son and myself were discussing "Prohibition." I contended that it is not right to make and sell intoxicating liquors. I am a beekeeper and sell honey. The woman said that if it were lawful, it would be no greater crime to sell liquor than to sell honey. The son said that one had as much right to sell liquor as to sell corn, or any other foodstuffs. It is impossible for me to see how any intelligent person who wants to do right, can think such a thing, when it is so plain to be seen how much misery and woe is caused by intoxicating liquors.—Honey Girl of Virginia.

The POETS' CORNER

Unwedded

By Elizabeth Akers Allen in Scribner's Monthly.

Oh, thou beloved who shouldst have been mine own,
Serenely beautiful and wise and strong,
Consoler whom my life has never known,
How have I missed thee seeking thee alone
All my life long?

Somewhere upon the wide and misty track
I strayed behind, or did not wait for thee;
And so must always mourn my bitter lack,
For on this weary road we go not back.
Ah, woe is me!

Often, with sorely burdened heart and mind,
When there none to aid or understand,
How have I groped with tears, alone and blind,
In the thick darkness, longing but to find
Thy helpful hand!

For I believed that love is doubly armed
Against all woes, and with unshaken breath
Could pass through pain and suffering unalarmed,
Could take up poisonous things and not be harmed,
And dare even death.

"And how shall I love, immortal and sublime,"
I said, "be hindered of its best estate
By any petty chance of space or time?"
Alas! my life has lost its freshest prime,
And still I wait.

How beautiful our mingled lives had been,
Had we but found each other in our youth!
The world had grown, despite its strain and sin,
Sweeter because we two had lived therein
Our utter truth.

Then all the myriad ills which Fate contrives
Wherewith to fret men's hearts, to us had been
But motes along the sunshine of our lives;
Naught could have harmed us, since the true soul thrives
By discipline.

Then this unending toil and ceaseless toss
Had never marred my life; the hindering load
Of worldly circumstance, of gain or loss
Had seemed to us but cobwebs, stretched across
Our upward road.

Where art thou, love? Far as the farthest pole
Hast thou, too vaguely dreamed of what should be?
Or, mated early with some feebler soul,
Hast struggled with thy bonds in grief and dole,
Longing for me?

I had been more than all the world to thee,
So proudly tender, so entirely true,
So wise and tireless in my ministry;
More, dear, than any other soul could be,
All my life through.

Alas! the sun's last glimmering has kissed
The highest mountain tops of gold; and now
The crimson west has changed to amethyst,
And all the vale is dim with chilly mist,
But where art thou?

Too late! too late! the darkness gathereth,
And the night falleth, pitiless and dumb;
I cannot reach thee with this hopeless breath;
But when I walk the other side of death,
Wilt thou not come?

The Two Sinners

She was a woman both worn and thin,
Whom the world condemned for a single sin;
They cast her out on the King's highway,
And passed her by as they went to pray.

He was a man and more to blame,
But the world spared him a breath of shame;
Beneath his feet he saw her lie,
But raised his head and passed her by.

These were the people who went to pray,
At the temple of God on that cold day;
They scorned the woman, forgave the man,
It was ever thus since the world began.

Time passed on and the woman died,
On the cross of shame she was crucified;
But the world was firm and would not yield
And they buried her in the potter's field.

The man died, too, and they buried him
In a casket of cloth with a silver rim,
And said as they turned from the grave away,
"We have buried an honest man today."

Two mortals knocked at the heavenly gate,
Stood face to face to inquire of their fate;
He carried a passport with an earthly sign,
But she a pardon for love divine.

O ye who judge 'twixt virtue and vice,
Which think you entered paradise?
Not he whom the world did win,
For the woman alone was ushered in.

The Old Bachelors' Sale

I dreamed a dream in the midst of my slumbers,
And as fast as I dream'd, it was coined into numbers;
My thoughts ran along in such beautiful meter,
I'm sure I ne'er saw any poetry sweeter.

It seem'd that a law had been recently made
That a tax on old bachelors' pates should be laid,
And in order to make them all willing to marry,
The tax was as large as a me- could well carry.

The bachelors grumbled and said 'twas no use,
'Twas horrid injustice and horrid abuse,
And declared that, to save their own hearts' blood from spilling,
Of such a vile tax they would not pay a shilling.

But the rulers determined them still to pursue,
So they set all the old bachelors up at vendue;
A crier was sent through the town to and fro,
To rattle his bell and his trumpet to blow,
And to call out to all he might meet in his way,
"Ho! forty old bachelors sold here today."

And presently all the old maids in the town,
Each in her very best bonnet and gown;
From thirty to sixty, fair, plain, red and pale,
Of every description, all flock'd to the sale.

The auctioneer then in his labor began,
And call'd out aloud, as he held up a man,
"How much for a bachelor? Who wants to buy?"
In a twink every lady responded, "I! I!"
In short ,at a highly extravagant price,
The bachelors were all sold off in a trice,
And forty old maidens—some younger, some older—
Each lugg'd an old bachelor home on her shoulder.

Mother's Tribute

(Adapted from an address by P. M. Neff at Minn. meeting of the National Fraternal Congress by W. E. Hunge.)

If, through the gardens of this earth
I could but walk today,
And pluck the rarest flowers that bloom
And give them all away;
Into one bunch I'd weave them all,
And, like a youthful lover
With reverential hands I'd lay
Them at the feet of—Mother.

And, if from brows of royalty
I could but pluck today
The brightest gems, that glisten there,
With none to say me nay;
I'd fashion them into a crown,
And there would be no other
Upon whose brow 'twould ever rest,
Except my dear old—Mother.

There's no one in this wide world
To me, that's quite so dear,
My love for her grows stronger
With each succeeding year;
And while perhaps the love may wane
Of Sister and of Brother,
I know the love will ne'er grow cold
In you, my darling—Mother.

POEMS WANTED.

Songs and poems containing these lines are requested:

Let me live in a house by the side of the road,
Where the race of men goes by.

Oh, don't think that ever I'll doubt you,
My love I can never conceal.

Lord Lovell stood at his castle gate,
Combing his snow-white steed.

I thought I'd take a trip, a day or two ago,
To the town of Morrow, in the state of Ohio..

Spring once said to the nightingale,
I mean to give you birds a ball.

I am scolded every day,
What's it for I cannot say.

Come listen to me and to you I will tell
How the Spirit first called me to seek salvation.

First Ohio, Brooke and Hancock
And old Marshall here we see;
In a group they stand together
Just as snug as they can be.
(Song of the counties of W. Va.)

Let me die with my face to the foe.

Time comes to grief as sleep to weariness.
—By Theodosia Garrison.

What have we done with the days?
—By Reginald De Koven.

When I'm gone you'll soon forget me,
When from you I'm far away,
In your heart there'll be no longing.

I will send for you shortly,
My Father's house to share.

Canst thou tell me, gray-haired mother,
Some old story of the sea?

The Drummer, who ven he comes again this vay
Vill find what Phifer have to say
And mid a black eye go avay.
The Drummer.

HOUSEHOLD and CHILDREN

The Carpenter and the Crisis

The International Sunday School Lesson for April 17 Is, "Bible Teachings About Work."—Mark 6:-13; John 5:17; 2 Thess. 3:6-13.

BY WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

OLSHEVIKS and aristocrats are both causing trouble in the world today by maintaining the attitude that work is a se. It may fairly be said that k and workers and worklessness central to civilization's compre- sive problem. At the present e, the lot of ny stranded ployers is bit- beyond words. e new en- nce of labor, a class, into tics and into gion accen- tes and com- ates the ques- n. "Work," all that it notes, is writ- today as a e interroga- point. o it is well t this vas nday schoo cession that for a week ying the Bible's teaching about k. The Scriptures should clarify thinking upon the whole sub- As usual, we find the word of to be the sanest and most dern of teachings upon a con- porary problem. At once we ourselves confronted with the e principle of human duty. made man in His own image; at the very dawn of creation, was a worker. "My Father keth hitherto, and I work," de- ed Jesus.

William T. Ellis

passion to do his work, and to h His task, filled the breast of tireless Carpenter—for we pos- e the thought that the world's eemer was a workingman. He summoned weary humanity to self with the words: "My yoke asy" had made many a smooth- ng yoke for toiling oxen. If s of Nazareth has any special s sympathies they are with His ow laborers at manual tasks. at an example of industry and dency and of fearless mainte- ce of right He would set today!

A Stern Word.

ecause it assumes that honest r is the saving salt of society, Bible takes a position as stern he utterance of any modern re- er with respect to idleness. le the teaching that is freeing rs from industrial oppression, from soul-deadening, cattle- en overwork, is the teaching of y Writ, there is nevertheless no e in the revealed program of for the idler and the parasite. the sweat of his brow man is to ain his body, and also to main- the dignity of his soul. Idle- as everybody with eyes for life knows, begets profligacy self-indulgence and weakening oral fibre and distortion of all ife's real values. Both pitiable dangerous is the person who no work. A considerable share he moral collapse that has of been so flaunted in the great s is due to the simple fact that and women, as well as young have spurned the homely tasks housekeeping and cooking and smaking, and have given all thought to self-adornment and indulgence. Home-making and e-maintaining young people are r a problem to society.

ith the ruthlessness of truth, Bible declares that "If any ld not work, neither should he We all know that the non- ributing members of society— the Russian aristocrats, for in- ce—have been a burden and a plication to the world in the aking. In the bitterness of in- ible need, the refugee Russians he upper classes are suffering use this divine law is now king out; because they have not ked, they now cannot eat. De- racy will never be a full suc- until we again approximate the ent Jewish ideal wherein every learned a trade, and every an was a real worker in a e.

ir own day's thinkers and poets extol the dignity and glory of ; it is deemed a disgrace to to bear a fair share of the d's load.

Pulling Our Weight.

He pulled his weight in the race of life" is a better epitaph than many of the high-sounding phrases that adorn tombstones. Whether on farm or in home or in school, in office or in factory, or ship, or in mine, to have done a full share, to have played a man's part in helping the on-going of the world, is real success. Just as life is for work, so also work is for life. We labor in order to live; but, quite as truly, we live in order to labor. Everybody's work is the highest expression of his personality, his best contribution to the world. Whether by making horseshoes or by repairing automobiles, by raising grain or weaving cloth, by cooking food or building houses, each of us is thereby doing our share towards the success of civilization. Good workers are the very foundation of the state. The slacker at the day's task is quite as reprehensible as the slacker in war. Poor workers are not true disciples of the Carpenter who doubtless never turned out a skimped job from His Nazareth shop.

"I must work" is a more Scriptural motto than many of the sentimental mottoes popular with pious folk. If one cannot say: "I must work," as a true expression of his life purpose, no matter what his spiritual ecstacies, he is no sincere follower of the tireless Christ. Real Christians are, like Paul, the tentmaker, self-respecting and self-supporting servants of God and man. By their worship, and by their daily tasks, they do honor to the Lord Who is the Master of all good workmen. As Dr. Van Dyke expresses it in his Toiling of Felix:

"Every mason in the quarry, every builder on the shore,
Every chopper in the palm-grove, every raftsman at the oar,

"Hewing wood and drawing water, splitting stones and cleaving sod,
All the dusky ranks of labor, in the regiment of God,

"March together toward His triumph, do the task His hands prepare:
Honest toil is holy service; faithful work is praise and prayer."

To go to work, in a spirit of joy and achievement, is to go to sanity and proportion and vindication of character. It is to join the holy company of heroes of the Book—from Moses, the shepherd of Sinai, to the eleven workingmen who followed Jesus as apostles. And it is to find the secret of sweet sleep and simple pleasures.

Cards and Letters

These boys and girls are sure that they would like to exchange cards and letters with you: Gladys Hudson, Gay, W. Va.; Nellie and Lyman Wisecup, R. D. 13, Hillsboro, O.; Mabel Ward, R. D., AuSable Forks, N. Y.; Edward Kyles, R. D. 1, Box 17, and Goldie Bays, both of Spring Hill, W. Va.; John and Hazel Henderson and Boyd Price, St. Albans, W. Va.; Gene Ayres, Effie Whipkey, Billy and Winifred Ayres and Dolly Simers, all of Whitepine, Calhoun Co., W. Va.; Effie Sanders, Star Route, Rowlesburg, W. Va.; Howard Himes, Elsie Barr, Elva Parrett and Taye Zimmerman, Halton, Pa.; Chester and Earl Bell, John and Jim Bradford, Jim Valentine and Harry Flueharty, all of Elizabeth, W. Va.; Elijah Littleton, R. D. 2, Elizabeth, W. Va.; Grace and Martha McLaughlin, Selva and Ernie Taylor, Frametown, W. Va.; Edna Woodard, Effie and Marie Lyttle, South Bloomingville, O.; Eula Will, Hazel Arbogast, Evelyn Wagner, Marvin Paffenbarger and Vernon Newman, all of Monterey, Va.; Matilda Hiner, Crabbottom, Va.; Orvia Conrad, Orma, W. Va.; Mable East, Box 34, Rohnerville, Humboldt, Cal.; George and Faith Bachtel, Maxwell and Paul Riffe, John Gorrell, Charley Maple, all of Wilding, W. Va.; Marie Temple, R. 1, Box 119, Seaman, Ohio; Ralph Barrett, West Stephentown, N. Y.; Minter, Gertrude, and Opal Young, Ralph, Xenna, and Fern Carpenter, and Charley Davison, all of Gaines, W. Va.; William Baker, R. D. 3, Ravenswood, W. Va.; Delmer Somerville, Sandyville, W. Va.; Clarence Mercer, Palestine, W. Va.; Rebecca Williams, R. 4, Reynoldsville, Pa.; John Shockey and Harold Bibbee, R. 1, Box 69, Ravenswood, W. Va.; Ruby Mullins and Freda Pugh, both of Glen, W. Va.; Goldie, Edith, Mure and Maude Reip, Euclid, W. Va.

England is the heaviest buyer of American butter and cheese.

Short and Sweet

"I expect you would call me a tomboy," admitted Little Leaby; but added, "I can bake good pies and cakes and I love to work indoors as well as out. She is a West Virginia hill lassie and dwells on a farm. Little Leafy begs Lonely Heart not to feel discouraged because, some day, the right one is coming along and will recognize her worth. She advises everyone to wait until they are sure that they are right, for there is no more fatal mistake made than marrying the wrong one.

We are asked to help R. G. of Iowa out with her "thank you ma'ms and sirs," because she just couldn't answer all the good letters that you sent on to her as soon as you knew that she wanted to hear from you. But she does appreciate every single letter—she says so! R. G. which really "stands for" Ruth Gibbs, thinks that we might discuss Bible subjects with profit. And she agrees, too, that it would be nice to have a Blade pin or button and wishes that you would all express yourself on that subject.

Because this month seems to express the beginning of things to Sallie Owens—we always did love the name of Sallie!—of Bromo, Ky., she said that she would call her first letter to us an "April note." We hope that it will not prove to be a "December note" instead, for we do not want it to end right here. Her letter sounded like several more, at least. Her birthday was in December—was sixteen on the twelfth—and she is a twin hunter. After describing herself, she said, "Guess I'd better be running along." And that didn't seem to be a reason for an exit at all—light hair and brown eyes sound good to us, Sallie!

Bess M. Caldwell of Sandy Lake, Pa., was interested in the letter written by one of our friends who has the same last name, but whose "front" name is Nina Mae. Bess had mislaid the paper that had the address in, and she is very anxious for it. Nina Mae, if you are present, will you please hold up your hand, or, rather, send a friendly hail directly to Sandy Lake?

If you will write to her, Lonely Girl, Mrs. O. F. Lewis of Alexander, W. Va., says that she will surely answer. Aunt Martha feels all "set up" to think that Mrs. O. F. L. wants to see her picture and to know her age and everything about her, just as if it would be worth while to know. Aunt Martha is in such "mortal terror" of disappointing some of her dear good friends, that she just can't bear to have them see her as she really is. She just treasures your thoughts of her and tries to grow like them.

An envelope containing Easter greetings, a little bunch of pressed wild flowers—bespeaking a day in the woods for which Aunt Martha longs, but is too busy to indulge herself—and a letter signed, "Farmer Girl of W. Va.," pleased us mightily, but the letter couldn't be handed on to you, because it was written on both sides of thin rice paper and with dim ink and just couldn't be deciphered—except in "spots." So Aunt Martha will have to enjoy her Easter card, her bunch of wild flowers selfishly all by herself.

Pearlie Ann Cunningham, Tazewell, Tenn., R. D. 1, Box 47—might as well print it all right away, because she wants to hear from you—remembered her promise to visit us again when the birds sang. She was reminded by the joyousness of their song and old Mother Earth has so renewed her youth that Pearlie Ann felt like expressing herself, too. She wasn't minding it at all that it was a gray, rainy day when she was writing to us, because she knows that it takes all kinds of days to make things grow beautiful and fragrant and tuneful. Something of a philosopher is Pearlie Ann.

The seats on either side of Keystone Bachelor being taken, Buckeye Lass found a delightful place between Dixie Moonbeam and J. V., although she says that she can't understand them very well. She is willing to wager that Contemplator had a dictionary handy when his letter was written, or else Webster would have to blush for the limitations of his, in comparison. Buckeye Lass had a word to say to ever so many of you and it was all so clever that we cannot understand how we missed the two others that she claims to have written to us. We'll hope to print her in full, next time, so that you may judge for yourself.

Simple Furniture Polish

Turpentine and beeswax mixed to the consistency of thin cream make an excellent polish for furniture upholstered in leather.

BOYS AND GIRLS

Is it rainy, little flower?
Be glad of rain.
The sun that veils itself from thee
Will shine again.
The clouds are very black, 'tis true;
But just behind them smiles the blue. —Mary Frances Butts.

A THROB FROM LONELY HEART

I just have been reading the letters from our Peace Page intended for my benefit and I surely do appreciate the interest taken by those dear cousins in my welfare. Thank them most sincerely for their sympathy and advice. But I cannot bear to have them think that the man to whom I made reference, is an unworthy and a dishonorable character. I tell you truly, there is a both worthy and honorable. While I know that he has deeply wronged me, I believe, now, that he is perfectly honest in his opinion of me. He thinks that I am deceitful and unworthy of an honest man's love. Just because he has misread, or, rather, misunderstood my letters. I can only hope that God will sometime cause him to see how deeply he has wronged me. Briar Rose, your experience seems to be similar to mine in some respects, yet there is all the difference in the world. If the man I love had told me that he no longer cared for me, or that someone else was more dear to him, I think that I could have given him up without regret. But to think that a false interpretation of our letters should have separated us is almost unbearable at times, although I have been trying to do some sane thinking and am more reconciled. I will try to live as nobly and truly as though I never had known this great sorrow. I think that perhaps I may marry another when I can feel sure that I can respect and honor him and will try to be to him and to our children, a true wife and an affectionate mother. I love children and it is not a pleasant thought to contemplate spending the long years that may be before me without even realizing the joys of motherhood. But I know that I can never be happy with another as I would have been with the one I love. But, next to her husband, I believe that a woman can love a child better than anything else. So, I think that it will be better to like, honor and respect the father than to go through life without those dear little ones. What do the cousins think?—Lonely Heart of Kansas.

Billy Retorts.

Would like to have another chat with the girls of the Peace Page. Farmer Lass, I am so glad that you informed me that it is no longer big I, but U. And I turned everything you said into something you didn't mean? Well, that's too bad, but you left so many loopholes that it was a temptation. You affirm that I didn't say anything about best and second best. I guess that Aunt Martha must have printed you a special Blade different from the rest, for my Blade made mention of second best, but in my last printed letter. You are right, the farmer is the hub of the wheel of industry and I am afraid that I will continue to wear overalls, even if it is seedy and you already have given it away that I am stingy. Farmer Lass, do you know that as in machinery, there are three speeds of living for people. Low is the class that doesn't care at all for personal appearance, doesn't keep neat and clean and so on. Intermediate is the class that is neither slouchy and dirty, or the other extreme. High is the fast class in money spending speed. Intermediate gives by far the best satisfaction both in the city and on the farm, or in any walk of life, anywhere. I refuse to hoist a white flag to you. You must bring on harder hitting guns for the battle, too. You stand by your silk-clad Penna farmers and I'll stand by the ones in overalls. You are welcome to have the last word, too. It's too bad that Day Dreamer didn't get a letter in also roasting me. Then it would have been a broadside. Dixie Moonbeam, I just will not say anything about you, one way or the other. Gray Eyes of New York, disposition, character, merit, all come ahead of beauty. Indiana Bluebird, I could not answer your personal letter, for you failed to sign your real name and address. Farmer Gal, you finally may advance into the first class instead of the second. Some of you accuse me of wanting my wife—if I had one—to cook all the time in a hot kitchen. You have the wrong idea. It isn't quantity, but quality of cookery. So simple a thing as frying potatoes has a right and a wrong way of being done. So, when I mentioned cooking, I meant the right way of cooking and not the amount of it, Day Dreamer, your recent letter was very good. Old Crank, hold your own if you can. You have a subject that will stand comment. I am in class two on it. You may find me in class two all along, from now on. One girl wrote to me personally that she intended to classify the men, but, to date, I haven't seen it done. I believe that The Blade letters are growing better than they used to be. That is, when I keep out. Seems like I make a regular Ford Peace Ship out of the Peace Page. Now, Farmer Lass, the last word is yours. I like to hear the girls rave, but will slip out now before I am kicked out. I'll just buy some new overalls and start in on the spring work and not bother you again for a while. Some cheek, eh, Dixie Moonbeam?—Bachelor Billy.

Laurel Blossom's Twin.

Found!—a twin for Laurel Blossom of Idlewilde Farm, W. Va. No, I am not a Cowboy, but I'm your twin, and that's almost as good! I'm just a Kentucky girl and I want to know your real name and address so I may write to you. I am asking Aunt Martha to assist me in doing this and I am sure that she will. I have written to the Boys and Girls of The Blade twice before, once getting a seat by Prairie Rose and once by Aunt Martha. I enjoy all your letters, which I never miss reading. Laurel Blossom, send your name and address to The Blade, or write to Box 175, Science Hill, Ky., and claim your twin. I hope that this escapes the waste basket for I am anxious to know more about you. I suppose it would be right and proper for Laurel Blossom's twins to sign their names Weeping Willow or Laurel Blossom No. 2, but I am not going to. Instead, let me be known to you all as—Dardenella.

Mixing With Martha

Scrambled Eggs and Tomatoes.

Melt one-half tablespoon butter, add one teaspoon grated onion. Cook two minutes. Add cup cooked tomatoes, salt and pepper to taste, and one-fourth teaspoon sugar. Cook eight minutes. Add four beaten eggs and stir until thick. Serve on toasted bread.

Apple Tapioca Pudding.

Six tart apples, one cup of tapioca, one quart of tepid water, one large cup of sugar. Pare and slice the apples in a dish. Soak the tapioca for three hours in the tepid water. Stir the sugar into it and pour over the apples, sticking a few cloves into the apples. Bake and serve with cream.

Fruit Pudding.

One-half box gelatine, two cups cold water. When dissolved add two cups hot water, two cups sugar, juice of two lemons. Strain, and when quite firm stir in this fruit: One orange cut in tiny pieces, four figs cut in tiny pieces, six dates cut in tiny pieces, two bananas sliced, 14 blanched almonds, a few seeded Malaga grapes. This is fine with whipped cream.

HOW WOMEN OF MIDDLE AGE

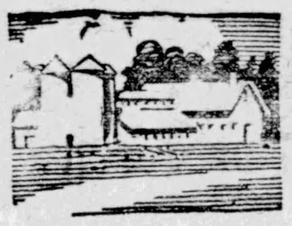
May Escape the Dreaded Sufferings of That Period by Taking Mrs. Block's Advice

Hopkins, Minn.—"During Change of Life I had hot flashes and suffered for two years. I saw Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound advertised in the paper and got good results from taking it. I recommend your medicine to my friends and you may publish this fact as a testimonial." — Mrs. ROBERT BLOCK, Box 542, Hopkins, Minn.

It has been said that not one woman in a thousand passes this perfectly natural change without experiencing a train of very annoying and sometimes painful symptoms. Those dreadful hot flashes, sinking spells, spots before the eyes, dizzy spells, nervousness, are only a few of the symptoms. Every woman at this age should profit by Mrs. Block's experience and try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

If you have the slightest doubt that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound will help you write to Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co. (confidential) Lynn, Mass., about your health.

CASTORIA.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Chas. H. Fletcher



RURAL WELFARE

EDITED BY A. P. SANDLES

THE POWER HORSE— Time to Boost Him

Rural Welfare has received several letters from breeders' association to assist in boosting for the resurrection of the draft horse for use on the farm.

We feel like being a friend to the old four-footed power house horse that can push the collar that pulls the plow. We are also asked to help persuade county fairs to offer more premiums and bigger prizes for draft horse classes this year.

The veterinarian is ready to boost this game. The more horses, the more business he will have. The vets are not a success in curing autos and trucks.

Gasoline may not always be plentiful. There is a chance that it might fail us at any time, because of strike or other unrest conditions. Boost the power horse into a front seat once more. See your county or state fair managers.

Rural Welfare editor as secretary of a county fair, is helping to put on a big show of match teams. The first prize for match mares will be $50, second prize $30 and third prize $20. The same prizes will be offered for match geldings. At least 40 teams are expected in the show ring.

One hundred draft colts are expected in the show ring. The first prize $50. Each colt shown will be given some prize of value. This will give boys a chance to get before a crowd and also find out what a good horse is.

Already there is big talk about our horse show at the next fair. Stallion owners are expected to contribute to prize money for their big show of colts. Moving pictures will be taken of both the match team and the colt exhibit.

Will you say a word to boost the game along, if you live in a community where there is any use for draft horses and a fair at which to show him? Do it now.

KAISER-CURE BOYS— The American Legion

Rural Welfare editor talked to the boys who were members of an American Legion post. Diamonds in the rough. They had just finished a drive for new members and had added nearly a hundred to their roster.

Some ex-service men are not in a hurry to enlist in the Legion. They have various excuses. Some of the boys do not yet realize what it means to be a member of such a post. They do not yet fully value the honor of being a world war veteran. In due time they will all join.

We impressed upon them the necessity of getting all war records concerning themselves absolutely correct. This may mean their comfort and welfare in their old days. The Congressional Record at Washington shows that many special bills have been introduced in congress to give relief to some soldier whose neglect to have all records in the war department correct had deprived him or his widow of a pension.

Some of these cases in the war department are well nigh tragedy. Boys were naturaly careless. They were ignorant of the importance of such things when they were young. They forgot that some day they would be old and possibly needy.

In discussing with these boys this possible neglect, we asked for a show of hands on how many had neglected some detail of record, medal, insurance, etc. Quite a number of hands went up.

When we suggested that the American Legion, in all parts of the nation should insist on war grafters being punished and exposed they heartily agreed. These service men have no use for the slacker or the grafter. One is as much a disgrace as the other. If there is any great difference, perhaps the thief is worse than a coward.

We urged attendance at meetings of the Legion and to take part in discussion and to pursue strict parliamentary rules and practice, as here was a chance for a training that would sure come handy in any walk of life, in which they might engage.

We scolded these fellows for not having a flag displayed in their meeting room. We asked them to adopt resolutions calling upon our public schools to teach the singing of our national songs and patriotic hymns. They went on record as favoring this being done.

Ten years ahead and these boys will be mature men and they will weld together better than they do now. In every county they should hold an annual summer picnic and help to keep the home fires of American patriotism burning.

Mothers and wives of these boys should urge that they take real interest in Legion affairs. This organization will become a political and moral power in America. Our own and only boy was in the war, and this is our advice to him.

THE COLLEGE JAM— The Rush to Smartness

Colleges and universities are in a big jam. Over crowded with students. Many have failed to pass examinations. Failures by the thousands have been reported and more coming.

Colleges overflowing. Empty farms. Why this great rush to college in search of knowledge? Do we have the notion that education is insurance and guarantee against hard work? Do we have the belief that there is more money in being a professional man or woman than there is in the common walks of life?

Why the failures? Did the common school and high school fail to fulfill their mission and qualify the boy and girl for college? Every state university is asking for big appropriations from its legislature with which to erect more buildings. We have all boosted for higher education. Have we overdone the job?

California is reported as having the largest attendance in the country at its university. The number enrolled runs high into thousands. We are living a mile a minute these days. Our guess is, that most of us like the pace. What's the end? Need we worry?

SPECIAL FAVORS— Farmers Be Wary

Congress passed a farmer's protective tariff. The bill was hit by President Wilson with a veto. The whole country knew he would do it. Congress spent a lot of time playing to the grand stand and to make itself solid with the farmer vote. Too many congressmen think the farmers want special favors. Too many farmers do want special privilege.

Some farm leaders may get overanxious to make a showing and prove that they are really doing things. The farmer should beware of that disease called special legislation.

If the big bosses let something like that go through for the farmer you can bet that the big fellows in due time will ask and get a whole lot more special legislation than the farm and farmer were allowed to get.

The farmer is entitled to a square deal. He should never ask more. The other fellow should never be permitted to get more than a square deal. The day of danger to the farmer is here. He has attracted attention and is in the spotlight. The smooth fellows will try to get him.

FIGHT THE WEEDS— Start Early in Spring

Weeds are crop robbers. The good farmer always fights weeds. The war never ends. Weeds never quit the battle. You may win today, but the weed will fight tomorrow.

Make sure that seed you use for sowing and planting is free from weed seed. You can more than half win your war on weeds if you make sure of pure seed.

Weeds are not a good trade mark either for field, garden, yard, alley, street or road. Weeds make their big drive in spring and early summer. See to it that school and church grounds, park and cemetery are kept free from the weed nuisance. Do it now. Fight and win.

CIVIL SERVICE FARCE— Costly Toy to Public

The civil service farce is often a curse to government. It creates a class of life officeholders. It means less efficiency instead of more, as is preached and not practiced.

Indifferent and dead ones linger to lengthy old age if they have a government pension under the civil service. They do not worry about giving service and value received for the salary paid. Their worry is how to get their pay check a few days before payday.

Ohio has had a costly experience. Some ten years ago the civil service farce was foisted upon the state by politicians who wanted to get life jobs for their political workers.

Ten years ago the cost of running the state of Ohio was 12 million dollars. Today, under civil service, the legislature, now in session, will have to appropriate 30 million dollars to pay the expense of Ohio one year.

We do not believe in the spoils system. Neither do we believe in a spoiled system, such as civil service. How many farmers would want the civil service farce to apply to farm labor employes? Would the farmer want to keep and pay a man or woman, whether he wanted that man or woman or not?

Why force something on a state that we would not want forced upon ourselves? Would a good housewife want a law that would make her keep a servant in her home, whether that servant was agreeable or wanted? Civil service is no friend of the taxpayer or good government.

These civil service folks are supposed to stay out of politics. They do not. They only pretend to do so, to keep within the pale of the law. They often spend more time in groundmole ways playing politics than they do taking care of their job.

Why should the law be so framed as to handicap good service for the state? Why should incompetent jobholders have a life hold on the job? What goes on in state house, court house and city hall is of importance to all citizens. The same is true at Washington.

Less jobs and more service will suit taxpayers.

COUNTY BREEDERS— Many Get Together

We have received many letters which indicate that the breeders of pure bred livestock are getting together in their counties and states for the purpose of boosting and promoting the interests of their breeds.

This is wise. The breeder of registered stock ought to do what he can to be a good salesman. Advertising has made more millionaires than any other dozen things.

Breeders are now trying to put their particular breed to the front at state and county fairs. Street fairs and mid-winter shows often have good exhibits of pedigreed animals.

Breeders are learning that co-operation is profitable. They are getting acquainted. Every time they get together they better qualify themselves to promote their game and boost their animals into a front seat before the public.

The managers of state and county fairs should give a helping hand to these enterprises. Nine farms out of ten need more good bred live stock. Breeding good animals on the farm always improves the man who plays at this game.

Get together. Every breeder in every county ought to be thoroughly acquainted with all the others. No matter if it costs a dollar or two. Do it now.

A NEW FARM CREED— It Fits and Hits

The state department of agriculture of Missouri has sent to Rural Welfare editor a new creed for the farmer. It is a good one. Our readers will appreciate it.

There are nine chapters in it. Mr. and Mrs. Farmer read it over. Cut it out and paste it in a handy place. Commit it to memory. Pass it on to your neighbor or better still get your home paper to publish it.

Here is the creed:

Of late it has been interesting, as well as helpful, to read and study the many earnest efforts to put into concise and attractive words the common creed or country life doctrine of life on the farm. Mariella Ladd in the Country Gentleman has written a "modern farm creed" as follows:

I BELIEVE that there is no place like home and that the best home in the world is the farm home.

I BELIEVE that a farmer whose mind is always toward improvement and production makes the best husband and father that the world can produce.

I BELIEVE that the farm is the best place on which to raise good children. How many of our great men have learned to be honest, faithful, industrious and go-ahead citizens in a farm home!

I BELIEVE that sunshine, smiles and soap and water are the finest brighteners of the farm home. They should, however, be supplemented as soon as possible by modern inventions and comforts. There is no just reason why the farmer and his wife should work under discouraging or uncomfortable conditions.

I BELIEVE that thrift is needed in a farmer's wife as much as in the city woman and that intelligent handling of foodstuff in the home pays big dividends in health and money.

I BELIEVE in constant study by both farmer and wife. There is no foe to boredom like intelligent work. There is nothing that wears out one sooner than working without aim or an eye to results.

I BELIEVE in recreation on the farm as elsewhere. It is not only a duty but a paying proposition to ward off overfatigue.

I BELIEVE in a quick burial for grievances, worries, snubs and scandals, with no headstones to be allowed in the graveyard.

THE LENDING HABIT— Good to Your Neighbor

Our attention has been called to a debate in a farm meeting as to how far one neighbor is under obligation to lend things to another neighbor. This is a question that many folks have thought about.

When a boy we have had to go often to the neighbors and borrow this, that and the other. We remember times when the neighbor refused to lend. We also remember a few times when we were not refused, but the tone and manner in which we were received, were even a worse feeling than if we had been told to go home empty handed.

Some folks overdo the borrowing habit. Some of these also are not as prompt as they ought to be in paying back.

There is no reason why one neighbor should not help another in a reasonable way in the lending. Sometimes the farm wife has unexpected company. She takes pride in setting a good meal before her visitors. If she is short of something that will make the dinner a real treat to her company, she has our permission to borrow from the neighbor.

The right sort of person would rather borrow than lend. It is often some embarrassment to borrow. There should be a prompt paying back of what was borrowed. Town and country both knew what the lending habit is.

We know husbands who often borrow money from their wife and are tardy in paying back. Other husbands borrow from their wife's religion and use it as a smoke screen in business.

We know one man who said, "I have been a Christian all my life and it never cost me a cent." He will need an asbestos suit for his funeral.

TWISTING THE LAW— Too Many Changes in Law

"A good lawyer is a good law twister. He can twist the law to suit his client and his case. The proof of this, that the best lawyer will win the case, while a poor lawyer may have the right on his side, but is not a good twister and will lose his case."

An old boy made this remark to Rural Welfare. We wonder how many agree with him. The man with a good lawyer and a political pull, will often get favors from the law that many a poor devil will not get.

"Every time a new governor of a different political party comes into office, there is a lot of ripping up and changing of laws to suit the whim of some new boss who knows mighty little about the real task of good government."

This remark was made by a good lawyer to Rural Welfare editor. We know he is right about the matter. Too much changing of the law. Too many new laws. The folks do not know whether they are keeping within due bounds or not.

Ripping up school systems, agricultural departments, colleges and universities is always an expensive luxury to the taxpayers and is sure to lessen efficiency and satisfactory results.

We seem to think more of giving a few officeseekers a place at the pie counter than we do of the real welfare of the state or nation. It will be so, just so long as we have men too small for the jobs of lawmaker and governor elected to office.

GAMBLE WITH BUGS The Risk on the Farm

Yes, the farmer must gamble with bugs and humbugs. Chinch bugs, 'tater bugs, punkin bugs and a lot of other breeds are playing the farm game against the farmer.

The farmer must gamble with the weather. He must take the risk of long wet and dry spells. He must take a chance on excessive heat at the wrong time for his crop good. The extremes of heat and cold at times, when damage is wrought to his expected harvest.

One cold rain at a particular time may ruin the apple crop. An ice sheet in spring time may smother the wheat crop. A drouth may reduce the potato and other crop yield when prospects seem brightest.

The farmer must gamble with the markets. He must play his game to beat all these enemies the best he can. This struggle makes him strong and a worth while man. He does not ask for a sissy or baby job. He has one of the biggest tasks in the world. There is enough of chance and hazzard in it to make him a peppy man if he has in himself good lumber that will not warp, shrink or swell.

The white-shirt fellow in the city often thinks he is smarter and is endowed with more brain and gray matter than the farmer. The chances are that the bugs and worms would eat him whole, if he tried to run a farm six months. Even so, the bugs would regret their bonquet.

The farmer has a man size job. If he does not have plenty of good common sense, he had better resign and go into some other business that is an easier task and where lame ducks can make a living.

FARM HOME BEAUTY— How Much Is It Worth?

We have a letter from an agricultural engineering company. It has architects, landscape experts and civil engineers who will visit any farm home, fair grounds, public institution, park or other place and prescribe specifications for beautifying same.

How much could a farmer afford to pay for a service that would show him how to make his farmhouse and its surroundings beautiful and a real picture to look upon?

Have farmers ever given enough thought to this question? Have they spent enough money for this purpose? Can they afford not to beautify the old farm home?

Does any farmer doubt the wisdom of doing the things that will make the farm house attractive and convenient? Is it not a fact that any farm home, well dressed, will cause many good things to be said about it?

The great majority of employes in the Spanish toy factories are women.

Factory to Rider Saves $15 to $25 on the model you select from 44 Styles, colors and sizes of Ranger bicycles. Delivered free on approval *express* prepaid direct from the Makers for 20 Days Free Trial. We pay return charges if not satisfactory in every way.

12 Months to Pay Possession and use at once on our liberal year to pay plan. Any boy or girl can save the small monthly payments.

Tires wheels, chains, parts and equipment at half usual prices. BIG RANGER CATALOG FREE, with marvelous new prices, 30 day trial offer and terms. Ask for special Rider Agent plan to earn money in spare time.

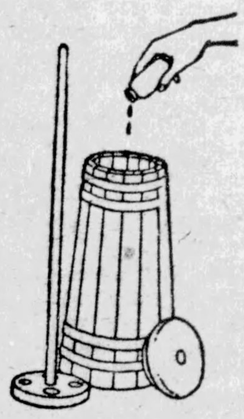
Mead Cycle Company Dept. L-64 Chicago

WITTE LEVER CONTROLLED Log Saw $125 F.O.B K. C.

Engine, Saw, Etc., all complete. From Pittsburgh add $6.30. Ask for Terms. Folder FREE.

WITTE ENGINE WORKS
2610 Oakland Avenue, Kansas City, Mo.
2610 Empire Building, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Use Dandelion Butter Color



Add a half-teaspoonful to each gallon of winter cream and out of your churn comes butter of golden June shade to bring you top prices.

DANDELION Butter Color

All stores sell 35 cent bottles, enough sufficient to keep that rich, "Golden Shade" in your butter all the year round. Standard Butter Color for fifty years. Purely vegetable. Meets all food laws, State and National. Used by all large creameries. Will not color the buttermilk. Tasteless. Wells & Richardson Co., Burlington, Vermont.

ASPIRIN

Name "Bayer" on Genuine

BAYER

Warning! Unless you see the name "Bayer" on package or on tablets you are not getting genuine Aspirin prescribed by physicians for twenty-one years and proved safe by millions. Take Aspirin only as told in the Bayer package for Colds, Headache, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Earache, Toothache, Lumbago and for Pain. Handy tin boxes of twelve Bayer Tablets of Aspirin cost few cents. Druggists also sell larger packages. Aspirin is the trade mark of Bayer Manufacture of Monoaceticacidester of Salicylicacid.

OHIO SENATORS APPROVE CODE

Some 60 Commissions and Boards Merged Into About 20 Bodies for Efficiency.

Before Democratic politicians can carry out their threat to attack in supreme court the validity of the emergency clause to Governor Davis' readministrative code, which passed the senate recently, 33 to 4, they'll have to file with the secretary of state referendum petitions carrying 120,000 names, Special Counsel Clarence D. Laylin of the attorney general's office said.

This action will be necessitated by a decision of the Ohio supreme court in 1915 in the Miami Conservancy district case, Laylin said, in which the high tribunal held that the general assembly's judgment as to the existence of an emergency may be challenged at any time within 90 days after passage of the emergency legislation "in a proper proceeding."

Sent Back to House.

The Davis code went back to the house for concurrence in amendments made by the senate before passing it. The house does not meet until the 18th.

Under the code, which becomes operative July 1, some 60 commissions and boards are merged into about 20 bodies, which are divided into eight principal groups, headed by directors receiving $6,500 a year. The directors are appointed by the governor, and approved by the senate, and their terms are co-extensive with those of the governor. The departments are:

Director of Commerce, embracing public utilities commission, superintendent of insurance, superintendent of banks, state fire marshal, superintendent of building and loan associations.

Director of Finance, including superintendent of budget, superintendent of purchases and printing.

Director of Highways and Public Works, embracing the highway, public works and state architect and engineer.

Director of Agriculture, embracing departments of state fair, animal industry, fish and game, food and dairies, plant industry.

Director of Health, embracing all health functions and the bureau of vital statistics.

Director of Industrial Relations, including the state industrial commission, workshop and factory inspector, bureau of mines, division of labor statistics.

Director of Industrial Relations, including the state industrial commission, workshop and factory inspector, bureau of mines, division of labor statistics.

Director of Education, embracing superintendent of public instruction and chief of division of examination and licensing.

Director of Public Welfare, including state board of administration, fiscal supervisor, superintendent of charities, superintendent of pardons and paroles and commissioner of soldiers' claims.

Senators J. F. Burke, Elyria; J. A. Reynolds, Cleveland, and G. H. Bender, Cleveland, spoke against the emergency clause.

The vote on the emergency clause was 33 to 4, three Republicans—Findly of Mansfield, Burke of Elyria and Bender of Cleveland—voting with the Democrat, Reynolds, against it.

Divorce Makes This Woman Ruler Over Empire in Jungles

By a simple decree, Superior Judge A. St. Sure, made Mrs. Ella M. Douglas, an Oakland, Cal., woman, queen and sole ruler of a domain larger than any European country and located in the heart of the Brazilian jungles along the famous River of Doubt.

The jungle empire was awarded Mrs. Douglas along with an interlocutory decree of divorce from Bruce Douglas, diplomat, explorer and soldier of fortune. The vast tract was a gift to Douglas from Don Manuel D'Valdez, whose title came from the queen of Portugal by inheritance.

Douglas was convicted of passing bad checks in New York and was sentenced to a short term in Sing Sing, where he is now serving time, according to testimony in court.

Mrs. Douglas will take her maiden name of Ella Blair Bennett and after settling her affairs will depart for the heart of the jungles, where she will be an Amazon queen.

George Washington was one of the first to urge the building of good roads by the national government.

AT LEAST HE MIGHT SET HIS TRAP SOME PLACE BESIDE THE MIDDLE OF THE FOOTPATH.

FLAPPER, WITH POWDER PUFF AND ROUGE, SUBJECT OF DEBATE

Should the flapper, with her elaborate makeup, her daring clothes, her bold and confident carriage, be suppressed as a menace to the nation's morals, or celebrated as its chief claim to art and beauty?

The question seems to be up for debate. The papers are full of scandalized protests against the way the flappers dress, and there are movements on foot for making high school girls, office girls, shop girls, and girls in general, dress more modestly. The reformers, who are back of this movement, proclaim that the morals of the American male are menaced, that he is upset and led astray by the spectacle of feminine beauty. Counsel for the defense asserts that it is the inalienable right of woman to make herself just as attractive as she can, that the man who is morally ruined by lipstick and silk stockings has no soul worth saving anyway, and that most of the reformers who attack feminine dress are old ladies, in spirit if not in fact, who are envious of blooming youth.

Down With Paint.

For some reason, the cosmetics and clothes seem to have attracted more scandalized attention than any of the other flapperisms. Perhaps her critics feel that if she could be fully clothed and denied the use of cosmetics, reform would follow as a matter of course. At any rate, many high schools are now trying it. School authorities in various cities have recently come to the aid of distressed parents by insisting that "immodest" clothing, rouge, powder and lipsticks, be barred from the schools. In the fashionable seminaries the same sort of embargo has been hastily reared.

Yet the flapper is not without her defenders, even among her own sex.

"All this hue and cry about cosmetics and clothes is outrageously silly in my opinion," says a New York matron, whose sub-deb years occurred about the time of the Spanish-American war. "It's worse than that; its base ingratitude. Why, the new flapper has performed a great service for her country by raising the standard of feminine beauty. You should have seen us back in 1890—plain and prim and proper. It was all right if you happened to be born beautiful, of course, but if you didn't happen to be, there was not a thing you could do about it. Rouge and lipsticks were out of the question, while hair-dye was unmentionable even in the family circle.

"Here, look at these," she said, handing up an old-fashioned album, containing laughable portraits of the pompadour period.

"There am I at eighteen," said the hostess, pointing to the photograph of a sad-eyed damsel, bearing with a patient smile the weight of a tremendous, straight pompadour. "I hate to confess it, but that is who it is. That expression of patient sweetness must have belonged to that period. I am sure it couldn't be reproduced now. Well, there is some consolation in growing old these days—the older we grow the better-looking we become.

"Guess who that is," continued the hostess, pointing to another photograph of an old-fashioned flapper, with large eyes, straight, finely chiseled nose and rather heavy chin.

"Rather pretty, but insipid," said someone.

"That's Lillian Langtry," explained the hostess, laughing. "They did not think she was insipid then. The greatest beauty of all ages, they called her. The 'Jersey Lily.' The woman who was one of the first to have perfumes and boots named after her, songs dedicated to her, and the men of two continents at her feet. And now, today, you say, 'A trifle pretty.' but you would not have given her photograph a second glance."

In the old days of the nineteenth century, there were beauties, but they were extremely rare. That is why they created such a furore. Today, charm is so usual among the feminine population that it is the homely girl who startles. The new flappers can produce a certain amount of good looks as easily as we produce watches and breakfast food. It is no trouble at all to be attractive, if you know the art of improvement.

In the old days, if a flapper had dull mouse-colored hair or a sallow complexion, she was saddled with those handicaps for life. Today, a girl can choose her own complexion and coloring, and buy them at the nearest beauty parlor. The flappers, you will notice, are nearly all blond or Titian-haired. They know their henna. Their eyebrows are neatly plucked; their eyes deftly shadowed; their hair elaborately dressed, their lips smoothly crimson. And with her new beauty has come a new independence, a new carriage, a new deportment—pep.

New Ruling Says American Citizens Need No Passports

American citizens entering or leaving the United States no longer will be required to obtain passports or permits, Secretary of State Hughes announced after receiving an opinion by Attorney General Daugherty.

Aliens leaving the country may also do so without permits, but passport control remains in effect in the cases of aliens entering the United States.

The opinion of the attorney general was called for to clarify the situation resulting from the inadvertent action of the last congress in terminating the passport control act of 1918 relating to the entrance and departure of American citizens and to the departure of aliens.

The state department, however, was said to consider it advisable for American citizens who expect to visit foreign countries to inquire of diplomatic and consular officers of those countries whether they would be required to present vise passports in order to enter and also ascertain what documents, if any, would be accepted by those countries in lieu of regular passports.

M. P. Father of 18

Arthur Hayday, Labor member of parliament, had another addition to his family recently, his eighteenth child, thirteen of whom are living. He has been twice married, and has now had nine children by each wife. He was himself one of a family of sixteen, and his present wife one of a family of thirteen.

HARDING GETS UNIONS' PLANS

Twelve Points Presented by Railroad Workers to Decide Disputes.

Five railroad labor unions with 500,000 members have submitted to President Harding's labor plan for ending industrial disputes between the roads and their workers proposing that the President call a conference of representatives of both sides at which new rules governing working conditions would be worked out to take the place of the national agreements, now in dispute before the railroad labor board.

The proposal was contained in a statement by representatives of the five mechanical unions and was sent to the President by B. M. Jewell, president of the railway employes department of the American Federation of Labor.

It proposed that all wage disputes be held in abeyance pending the conference holding that the matter of wages could be quickly adjusted to the satisfaction of all as soon as the question of rules had been settled.

The telegram was sent in response to a request from President Harding at the recent conference he held with Mr. Jewell, that labor submit its plan for ending the railroad industrial troubles. It included twelve points which were termed "labor's self evident and inalienable rights" which, it said, would have to be settled at the proposed conference, and specified that the national agreement should not be discounted in any way pending the outcome of the proposed conference. It was suggested that the conference be held under the jurisdiction of the railroad labor board, which would have full authority over it.

Included in the twelve points which the unions said should be upheld were the basic 8-hour day, the right of collective bargaining, the right of each craft to decide what organization should represent it in any conference with employers and adjustment of "proper pay" for overtime work.

Eighteen Heads in Dept. of Justice Are Chopped Off

Attorney General Daugherty has swung his axe and chopped off the heads of 18 special attorneys in the department of justice. All 18 were appointed to soft jobs by former Attorney General Palmer.

The salaries of these Democratic jobholders averaged about $4,000 a year each. The annual saving in this item alone will thus be $72,000. Not only are the Democrats discharged, but the jobs have been abolished and no Republicans will be appointed to succeed them.

This is a mere start in the Daugherty program, however, and within a few weeks many more heads will drop into the basket.

The day after he was sworn into office Daugherty appointed former Judge George Van Fleet of Fort Wayne, Ind., official headsman of the department with the title of special assistant to the attorney general.

No publicity was given the fact, however, and Van Fleet went on a still hunt into every departmental activity with instructions to report every job that could be dispensed with without injury to the service.

Van Fleet made his first report recently. It contained the names of the 18 special attorneys. Daugherty immediately signed orders for their discharge and their names went off the government payroll.

Practically all these men had been paid by Palmer during the past two years from a generous appropriation by congress for the prosecution of profiteers.

They were appointed in different cities throughout the country to handle profiteering and other special cases. It was charged, however, that most of them were Democratic politicians and that their time was spent in promoting the Palmer presidential candidacy more than in running down the profiteers.

Many of them were Palmer delegates to the Democratic national convention. They have continued to draw their pay regularly from the government notwithstanding few of them have rendered any valuable service whatever.

The Palmer anti-profiteering crusade was admittedly a farce.

Some of the Palmer assistants who have been actually in charge of important litigation are being retained by Daugherty until the cases they are handling have been finally disposed of. Among these are Solicitors General Freierson and six assistant attorneys general. One of the latter, Frank Davis, Jr., of Cleveland, is in charge of the claims division. As soon as his work is cleaned up he will join Palmer and the latter's former secretary, Robert I. Scott, in forming a Washington law firm.

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A duel of Biblical quotations spelled the jury for Thomas Archer Thomson, Buffalo draft dodger. "I felt I had a right to run away to Venezuela," he said. "Jesus said, 'My Kingdom is not of the world.'" "Yes," replied Commissioner Keating, "and Jesus also said, 'Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's,' and there's a passage about obeying your earthly ruler."

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UNEMPLOYMENT SHOWS GROWTH

Labor Department Sees Falling Off in Employment in U. S. During March.

An analysis of the employment situation for March made public by the U. S. Employment Service of the Department of Labor, shows that in the United States as a whole there was a falling off in employment. The reports from 65 American cities collected by the department shows that 1,421 firms, usually employing 501 or more men, employed 1,612,611 workers on Feb. 28, while on March 31 this number had dropped to 1,587,786—a net increase of 24,825 or 1.5 per cent. The net decrease since January 31 has been 40,384, or 2.5 per cent.

The automobile industry continued during March to hold first place among the industries reporting increases of employment. The industries which reported better conditions with the percentage of gains over February were: Vehicles for land transportation, 28.1 per cent; tobacco manufacture, 8.5 per cent; leather and its finished products, 1.7 per cent; liquor and beverages, .4 per cent; lumber and its manufacture, .3 per cent.

Steel Mills Hit.

Industries which reported a further falling off in employment and the percentage of decrease were: Iron, steel and other products, 6.5 per cent; metals and metal products, 4.5 per cent; paper and printing, 2.8 per cent; food and kindred products, 2.7 per cent; stone, clay and glass products, 2.7 per cent; chemicals and allied products, 1.8 per cent; textiles, 1.7; railroad repair shops, 1.7.

The total decrease of employes in nine industries was 59,390 and the total increase of employment in five industries was 34,565. These figures are not totals for the entire industries, but only for the plants making reports. They are considered by the department, however, to be fairly representative for the entire country.

How Cities Reported.

Of the 65 cities from which reports were received, 44 reported decreases in employment and 21 reported gains. The cities which reported gains, with the percentage of gain over February, were as follows: Detroit, 32.4; Flint, 12.2; Memphis, 10.5; San Francisco, 9.2; Toledo, 7.9; Patterson, N. J., 6.8; Portland, Ore., 6.8; New Bedford, 5.6; Atlanta, 5.3; Manchester, N. H., 5.2; Minneapolis, 4.8; Syracuse, 4.6; Yonkers, 8.7; Seattle, 2.9; Los Angeles, 2.5; Johnstown, Pa., 2.2.; Kansas City, Mo., 1.1; Trenton, N. J., .8; Youngstown, .6; St. Louis, .3; Lawrence, Mass., .1.

The cities which reported decreases in employment, with the percentage of loss in each case, were as follows: Denver, 43.3; Columbus, 22.5; Passaic, N. J., 17.2; Milwaukee, 16.1; Sioux City, Iowa, 15.5; Pittsburgh, 12.7; Worcester, Mass., 10.7; Lowell, Mass., 10.7; New Orleans, 10.5; Reading, Pa., 9.2; Niagara Falls, 8.9; Buffalo, 8.2; Kansas City, Kan., 6.2; Birmingham, N. Y., 5.9; St. Paul, 5.6; New Haven, 5.3; Chattanooga, 4.6; Fall River, Mass., 4.5; Waterbury, 4.4; New York, 4.4; Baltimore, 4.4; Louisville, 4.3; Brockton, 3.8; Omaha, 3.6; Bridgeport, 3.4; Cincinnati, 3.2; Chicago, 2.6; Newark, N. J., 2.3..

20-Minute Speeches

The Grand Council of the Canton of Berne has passed a law that speeches by deputies, even on important questions, must be limited to 20 minutes. Much time has hitherto been wasted in making speeches, sometimes on trivial matters.

Another White House Pet

CONGRESSWOMAN SAYS SCANTY DRESS OF WOMEN DISGUST MEN

Alice Robertson, Oklahoma's lady member of congress, recently gave her impressions of "The cigaret smoking women of the east," with their rouge and knee skirts.

When it was suggested that they proved a bit of a shock to a citizen of the "cow country" she said calmly: "You can see plenty of women in the southwest with rouge and skirts shorter than they ought to be. Some of them use even more rouge than the women in Washington and New York. The people out there aren't going to let the east get ahead of them in anything if they can help it.

"If the up-to-date skirt had more width and a little more length. it would be sensible.

Not Immoral—Disgusting.

"I don't call these extreme styles with the bodice cut too low and the skirt too high, immoral. If they were immoral, they would attract the men, but they don't. They disgust men. Women dress that way not to attract the men, but to get ahead of one another.

"Maybe you've noticed that it's the women with the scrawniest necks and legs who wear the lowest waists and shortest skirts," observed the "Lady from Oklahoma."

"The first time I saw women smoking was in New York, while I was staying at the National Arts club. It was interesting. If women want to smoke, that's their business. They don't hurt anyone but themselves. The men think it's disgusting."

Gives Her Opinions.

Sitting back in a comfortable chair in her office in the Capitol, Miss Alice, who gives promise of being as popular in Washington as in her home town, Muskogee, gave advice to wives, described the woman lobbyist as "something to be pitied," voiced disapproval of the League of Women Voters and declared the Shepherd-Towner maternity bill "Bolshevistic" in some of its features.

"The wife is usually to blame when the home is unhappy," she said. "Maybe she cooks badly or lazes around in a soiled kimono instead of dressing up and looking as pretty as she used to be.

"Courtship is like hunting or fishing. After the game is caught, the zest is gone. The woman makes the environ of the home and it's up to her to hold the interest of the man.

Wife Must Go Along.

"The dangerous time comes when the man begins to acquire money. When he takes a trip the wife who is wise leaves the children with someone else and trots along with him. She keeps up her complexion and dresses as attractively as possible so he won't go trotting after some pretty girl on the outside."

"I represent the conservative woman who would rather cook a good meal than meddle with politics," she said.

"The average woman in the United States wasn't interested in politics until she got the vote. The average woman didn't care anything about the vote. If she had she'd have got it long before she did.

Flays Voters' League.

"I don't believe in antagonizing the men. The League of Women Voters, in effect, says that if the men who make our laws will not make the kind of laws they want, they will throw stones at them, acting like children, and call them names.

"I am opposed to the Shepherd-Towner bill. It has paternalistic features which are bolshevistic and I think it is faulty in construction. It would create many jobs for women and give them powers they may not be qualified to fill.

"I don't want anyone to think that I'm disloyal to women. I'm a woman's woman, and now it's a 50-50 proposition with me. I was elected to represent both the men and women of Oklahoma."

WHAT TO EAT TO PUT IRON IN YOUR BLOOD AND MAKE YOU STRONG

PHYSICIAN TELLS HOW IRON-CONTAINING VEGETABLES SUCH AS LENTILS, SPINACH, APPLES, ETC., WHEN REGULARLY TAKEN WITH ORGANIC IRON BUILD GREAT STRENGTH AND ENDURANCE.

At their own doors—in the very gardens of those who are weak, nervous and ailing all the while is one of the most valuable tonics and strength-builders known to medical science, said Dr. James Sullivan, formerly physician of Bellevue Hospital (Outdoor Dept.) and the Westchester County Hospital, New York, when consulted recently.

Dr. Sullivan further said:—"If your daily diet contains an abundant amount of iron you are giving your body the red blood food it craves. But if your blood lacks iron and is thin, pale and watery you cannot expect to be strong and well. On the contrary, your nerves become weakened and you become irritable, fussy and easily upset. In such cases what you need is iron—organic iron to remove the cause of your trouble, and the moment organic iron is supplied it is often wonderful how quickly your multitude of symptoms will disappear and how strong and vigorous you will become." But be careful to distinguish between ordinary metallic iron which people usually take and true organic iron. Metallic iron is iron just as it comes from the action of strong acids on iron filings, while organic iron is a true red blood food, like the iron in your blood itself and like the iron in spinch, lantils and apples. In fact, if you will eat a pint or two of spinach, half a pint of lentils and three or four baked apples each day you will probably not need to take any other form of organic iron; but most people prefer to eat a smaller quantity of iron-containing vegetables and take organic iron, like Nuxated Iron, with them. It is like taking extract of beef instead of eating pounds of meat. To prove to yourself what Nuxated Iron can do for you, get your doctor to take a specimen of your blood and make a "blood count" of your red blood corpuscles; then take Nuxated Iron for a month and have a new "blood count" made and see how your red blood corpuscles have increased and how much stronger and better you feel; see how the color has come back to your cheeks, how steady and strong your nerves have become. At all druggists.

NUXATED IRON ENRICHES THE BLOOD-GIVES YOU NEW STRENGTH AND ENERGY

621,000,000 BUSHELS, WINTER WHEAT ESTIMATE

Forecast of a winter wheat crop of about 621,000,000 bushels was made by the department of agriculture basing its estimate on the condition of the crop April 1, which was 91.0 per cent of normal.

There was an increase of 3.1 points in condition from December 1 last to April 1 this year, compared with an average decline of 4.8 points between those dates in the last ten years. The production forecast is based upon the average planted last fall, with the assumption of average abandonment and average influences on the crop to harvest.

Production of rye was forecast as 66,386,000 bushels from a condition of 90.3 per cent of a normal.

Winter wheat condition April 1 last year was 75.6 per cent of a normal and production 577,763,000 bushels; on April 1, 1919, it was 99.9 per cent and production 729,503,000 bushels, while the ten-year average condition is 83.6 per cent.

FEDERAL ROAD BOARD ASKED

Automobile Makers Urge Concentration of U. S. Highway Activities.

Conservation of federal highway expenditures through their concentration on roads of interstate importance under the direction of a federal highway commission, was advocated before President Harding and other officials by representatives of the automotive industry, led by Roy D. Chapin of Detroit, chairman of the Highways Committee of the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce.

Imperative need of adequate maintenance to protect the enormous investments already made in highways and a broader appreciation of the entire road question as a problem in transportation rather than simply an engineering matter, were stressed, as were points which sought to show that highways are so important a part in the domestic policy of the nation as to demand a larger recognition. Future federal participation in highway matters, it was declared, should be in the hands of a commission responsible directly to the president, instead of being continued as a bureaucratic detail under any department.

Senator Charles E. Townsend, chairman of the senate committee on post roads, which will shortly begin hearings on highway legislation, presided.

Need of Credit Emphasized

The presentation was divided into sections, the first being presented by George Graham of the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce and vice-president of the Pierce Arrow Motor Car Company.

In picturing the influence which the motor vehicle has had in transportation, the speaker noted exports to 114 countries, including 56 motor vehicles to Iceland in 1920.

The need for a proper measure of credit for all transportation enterprises was developed and the point emphasized that discriminatory could not but be a restrictive burden of far reaching effect upon all industry.

While accepting without complaint any just share of taxation which might be necessary, Mr. Graham said that the automobile industry is now the most taxed of all groups, being subjected to five main levies, including the sales tax on the vehicle, that on parts, the state license and motor registration fee, the municipal and personal property tax, and finally the national and state income taxes, the last two of which, of course, are common to all industry.

Legion Establishes Washington Bureau to Help Veterans

Aroused by what the American Legion claims is the derelict manner in which the government is handling activities in connection with ex-service men's claims, a national division of the Legion has been established in Washington, in charge of Albert E. Haan of Detroit.

Mr. Haan has been engaged lately in welfare work for the Michigan legion organization and has had much experience in soldier relief work. He is a former official of the bureau of war risk insurance and himself a wounded veteran who has been confined in twelve different hospitals. He knows from his experience in hospitals and as a war risk official, just how badly the government agencies have fallen down in their work of looking after ex-service men.

The Legion's new bureau will look after relief work, hospital and compensation claims for ex-service men and their dependents, whether or not those applying are members of the Legion. Figures already compiled by Director Haan indicate that there are now on file in the bureau of war risk insurance more than 86,000 claims that have never been touched.

Many of the claimants are in hospitals over the country. Of these claims, 137 of them have been in the bureau's hands for three years and longer and have not been taken up for decision. There are 200 claims on the same status more than two years old, 400 one year old, 1,000 nine months old and others of lesser periods.

Clemenceau Rooster Gone

When ex-Premier Clemenceau reached his home in Paris from his tiger-shooting tour, he was greeted with bad news—his pet rooster graduated into a fricasse and is no more. The bird, which Clemenceau had in his back yard, crowed almost continually from 3 a. m. on, and as soon as the old Tiger was out of the way complaint was made and he was confiscated by the police.

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Edwards Gets Promotion

Brigadier General Clarence R. Edwards, who commanded the Twenty-sixth (New England) national guard division in France, is to be promoted to the rank of major general, Secretary Weeks has announced.

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DEATH TAKES EX-EMPRESS

Former Kaiserin of Germany Heart Disease Victim in Holland.

Former Empress Augusta Victoria of Germany died at Doorn, Holland, on April 11.

She was 63 years old. Besides her husband, Wilhelm Hohenzollern, she leaves six sons and a daughter. On Feb. 27 she and Wilhelm had celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary.

Former Emperor William and Prince Adalbert were at the bedside when the former empress died. They had been called by Dr. Haesner, who attended the former empress throughout her residence in Holland.

Was Ill One Year.

By a strange coincidence the end came just one year after she suffered her first serious attack of heart disease. It was while she was preparing to enter the House of Doorn, the present home of the former emperor of Germany, after her long residence at Amerongen that she was stricken with what at the time was believed to be a fatal attack. That was on April 11, 1920. For a few days, there were reports that her death was momentarily expected, but she rallied, and accompanied her husband to Doorn on May 15 last.

Attacks of her fatal malady recurred at frequent intervals, each sapping her vitality and nullifying the measures taken by specialists to restore her health.

When her son, former Prince Joachim, committed suicide in Berlin last July, she was in such serious condition that the news of his death was kept from her for a long time, and it is said she never learned her son killed himself.

Late last autumn the former empress' condition gradually became worse, and on several occasions her children were called to Doorn, but her strength was such that she rallied bravely when the end was believed imminent. Since the first of this year, it had been known that she was gradually sinking.

Secretary Hughes Wants Norwegian Ship Claim Fixed

Suggestion that Norway's claims against the United States for ships requisitioned during the war be adjusted by arbitration before the permanent court at The Hague was made by Secretary Hughes April 1 in a note to Minister Bryn of Norway in Washington.

At present a special Norwegian commission is on its way here for the purpose of reaching a settlement of the claims.

Chairman Benson of the shipping board explained that an allowance of $14,157,000 was made by the board for a number of contracts for ships under construction in this country for Norwegians, which were taken over by this government during the war and completed. Norway, however, it was said, expressed dissatisfaction with the amount, contending that the allowance should be made for speculative value of the contracts, due to the increased price of tonnage during the war.

The board refused to accept the argument and referred the question to the State department for adjustment.

Frans Xavier Gahelsberger invented the system of shorthand most used in German-speaking countries.

THESE OLD WAR POSTERS MAY COME IN HANDY.

FARM FENCING UNDERWENT BIG CHANGE DURING LAST CENTURY

Of all the changes wrought in the farming industry during the last century none is more noticeable than that in fencing, say specialists of the United States department of agriculture. All over the eastern United States there are hundreds of miles of stone-wall fences which are monuments to the patience and thoroughness of earlier generations, overlapping this territory, and extending west, are found fences of split rails, with their familiar weeds and berry bushes in the angles, while still farther west, where there was neither wood nor stone, are seen osage orange, and other hedges. These are natural productions of the time.

Used Material at Hand.

The farmers of New England built stone walls as the easiest way to get rid of the rocks on their fields. These stone fences are practically everlasting, and should be maintained, though new construction is out of the question because of the labor cost. The farmers of the Appalachian region and of the Ohio basin found timber plentiful and labor cheap. The rail fences they built were economical and serviceable, and that type has been abandoned only for lack of material. The prairie farmers planted hedges because they had none of the other materials. The land wasted was not taken into consideration. But this is an era of scarcity of material and high labor rates, and even the trim board fences, which succeeded more cumbrous designs, are impracticable.

The farmer usually finds today that barbed-wire or woven-wire fence will best serve his ends for new construction, and at the same time cost least. Barbed wire is used on large stock ranges where the loss of one or two animals through wire cutting is not serious, but for the farmer with fine horses, or a selected herd of cattle, large mesh woven-wire fences are coming more into use.

Good Erection Essential.

The manner in which the fence is erected has much to do with its service. The ends and corners are by far the most important elements of a fence. It is essential that they remain firm and solid in order to hold the fence rigid. The first thing to consider is placing the corners. The posts used should be large enough to give sufficient strength; they should be set deep enough to prevent heaving by the action of frost; they should be braced from each direction of tension by a stout rail about 12 feet long, preferably inserted in a mortise or notch of the post, and firmly footed with a small post.

Metal and concrete posts are on the market, but a great many farmers cling to wooden ones. The line posts should be approximately 4 inches in diameter. Various woods are used, including osage orange, locust, red cedar, mulberry and burr oak. They should be thoroughly seasoned and the bark removed, and to get the longest life should be dipped in creosote at a temperature of about 220 degrees, long enough for the preservative to penetrate the wood. These posts are best set in the spring after the frost is out and when the ground is soft. On level ground they may be driven with a maul, but in depressions should be anchored down by 2 by 4 cross pieces spiked on the bottom of the post before setting. The distance between posts depends on the location of the fence and the numbers and kinds of stock to be turned, the average in field fences being about 20 feet.

Stretching the Wire.

After the wire is unrolled it should be drawn up to the line of posts and freed from adhering trash. The stretchers are then attached and the line wires drawn until they are so taut that they can just be pressed together. Some slack may be allowed for uneven ground. In fastening the wire on the posts the line wire should be kept as nearly horizontal as possible and allowed to follow small irregularities in the ground. The staples should permit horizontal movement of the wire, allowing the weight of the fence to come directly on the corner posts, thus taking care of contraction and expansion due to weather conditions. A woven-wire fence is not complete without a strand of barbed wire above it; this prevents stock from reaching over and crowding it down.

To construct a woven-wire fence properly it is necessary to have a woven-wire stretcher, a single-wire stretcher to be used in attaching the fence to the end posts, a pair of wire cutters, a barbed-wire stretcher, a splicing tool, and hammers for stapling and fastening the wire. Barbed and woven wire may be unrolled by attaching the reel to the back of a wagon or by running a bar through the core and drawing it along with a horse.

GERMAN PROPOSAL IS DUE ON FRENCH RECONSTRUCTION

Germany will submit to the allied supreme council specific proposals for the reconstruction of the devastated regions of northern France in a note which now is being prepared and which will be dispatched before May 1, it was announced officially.

The note will reiterate Germany's desire to see the regions reconstructed as quickly as possible and will offer German labor and material to this end

EX-KING'S COUP TO BE PROBED

Hungary Agrarians Charge Treason and Demand Investigation of Plot.

Investigation of the circumstances surrounding attempted return of former Emperor Charles to the Hungarian throne has been demanded at a meeting of Agrarian members of the National assembly.

It appears that the Anti-Carlists had confidential agents in the immediate vicinity of the former emperor while he was in Hungary. The Agrarian deputies have urged their punishment on the charge of treason.

In addition the Anti-Carlists accuse the Hungarian government of a "blamable lack of energy respecting the king." They declare the government permitted him to hold a regular court at Steinamanger, appointing officers and court dignitaries, creating barons and administering to them the oath of office. Opponents of the restoration of the Hapsburgs appear to be most concerned with the role played by Bishop Mikes of Steinamanger, who in a sermon delivered last Christmas forecast the "king's resurrection" at Easter time. The attitude of Gen. Lehar, governor of West Hungary, is also strongly criticized. He is charged with playing a double game, because under the pretext of doing patriotic work in West Hungary, he is alleged to have prepared the ground for the return of Charles.

U. S. Report Says Frost Did Little Damage to Wheat

The condition of winter wheat throughout the country is "generally favorable," says a department of agriculture review of domestic crop conditions. Damage to the crop from the recent freeze is said to have been "negligible" and very little winter killing reported. The Hessian fly is prevalent in all parts of Indiana, it says, but no damage reported. Some fly damage is reported from Michigan, however. Seeding of spring wheat is said to be practically completed in Iowa and progressing well in Washington.

Corn planting is reported in full progress in the southern states with good stands obtained. Land is being prepared for planting in the leading corn producing states in the central section.

The fall sown crop of oats in the southern states is said to be generally in good condition, and the bulk of the crop in the ground in the middle west. Some damage to the early sown crop is said to be feared as a result of the recent frosts in Kansas, Nebraska and Tennessee.

Live stock is described in good condition throughout the country, with lambing in progress under generally favorable conditions, except in Arizona where the desert lambing grounds, due to drouth, are the poorest in many years.

Early seedings of clover and alfalfa are reported as damaged somewhat by the freeze in the central states. Alfalfa already is being harvested in the Yuma Valley of Arizona.

Pastures and ranges are declared generally good, although moisture is "badly needed" in Montana and the lambing ranges of Arizona.

Bergdoll Matter Now in Hands of State Department

Extradition from Germany of Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, draft evader, is a diplomatic question and in the hands of the State Department, Secretary Weeks says in a letter to Senator Capper of Kansas.

The Secretary added that the War department would "use every effort to have Bergdoll returned to United States military authorities."

State department officials refused to discuss reports that the Canadian government had been asked to extradite Bergdoll for violation of Canadian passport regulations.

The war secretary in his letter to Senator Capper disclosed that as soon as it was ascertained that Bergdoll was in Germany Brig. Gen. Allen requested the Baden government, where Bergdoll had sought refuge, to return him to the United States.

"The Baden government," the letter continued, "refused."

Strange Census Requests

Frenchmen are laughing over the quaint phrase contained in the census cards which are being filled in for the first general census in France in ten years. "Can you read and write at the same time?" is one of the queries. "Give the names of your children, who although married, are still alive," is another injunction, which would seem to imply that matrimony is a risky undertaking.

FOR EXCESSIVE
URIC ACID
TRY THE WILLIAMS TREATMENT
85 Cent Bottle (32 Doses) FREE

Just because you start the day worried and tired, stiff legs and arms and muscles, an aching head, burning and bearing down pains in the back—worn out before the day begins—do not think you have to stay in that condition.

Be strong, well, with no stiff joints, sore muscles, rheumatic pains, aching back or kidney trouble caused by body made acids.

If you suffer from bladder weakness, with burning, scalding pains, or if you are in and out of bed half a dozen times a night, you will appreciate the rest, comfort and strength this treatment should give.

To prove The Williams Treatment conquers kidney and bladder diseases, rheumatism and all other ailments when due to excessive uric acid, no matter how chronic or stubborn, if you have never tried The Williams Treatment, we will give one 85c bottle (32 doses) free if you will cut out this notice and send it with your name and address. Please send 10 cents to help pay postage, packing, etc., to The Dr. D. A. Williams Company, Dept. T-1620 P. O. Building, East Hampton, Conn. Send at once and you will receive by parcel post a regular 85c bottle, without charge and without incurring any obligation. Only one bottle to the same address or family.—Adv.

EARN a beautiful pearl bead necklace, pocketknife or cash for selling only one dollars' worth of our goods. Geiger Co., 1838 S. Troy E. st., Chicago, Ill.

Rheumatism
A Remarkable Home Treatment Given by One Who Had It

In the year of 1893 I was attacked by Muscular and Sub-Acute Rheumatism. I suffered as only those who are thus afflicted know for over three years. I tried remedy after remedy, but such relief as I obtained was only temporary. Finally, I found a treatment that cured me completely and such a pitiful condition has never returned. I have given it to a number who were terribly afflicted, even bedridden, some of them seventy to eighty years old, and the results were the same as in my own case.

I want every sufferer from any form of muscular and sub-acute (swelling at the joints) rheumatism, to try the great value of my improved "Home Treatment" for its remarkable healing power. Don't send a cent; simply mail your name and address, and I will send it free to try. After you have used it, and it has proven itself to be that long-looked for means of getting rid of such forms of rheumatism, you may send the price of it, One Dollar, but understand I do not want your money unless you are perfectly satisfied to send it. Isn't that fair? Why suffer any longer, when relief is thus offered you free. Don't delay. Write today.

Mark H. Jackson, 812-G Durston Bldg., Syracuse, N. Y.

Mr. Jackson is responsible. Above statement true.

CANCER
its successful treatment without use of the knife. Hundreds of satisfied patients testify to this method. Write for free book. Tells how to care for patients suffering from cancer. Address DR. W. O. BYE, Kansas City, Mo.
DR. W. O. BYE. Kansas City, Mo.

Bumstead's Worm Syrup
For 60 Yrs. the standard remedy. It never fails. Druggists, general stores or mail, 50c bottle. Est. C. A. Voorhees, M. D., Philadelphia, Pa.

WATCH THE BIG 4
Stomach-Kidneys-Heart-Liver
Keep the vital organs healthy by regularly taking the world's standard remedy for kidney, liver, bladder and uric acid troubles—
GOLD MEDAL HAARLEM OIL CAPSULES
The National Remedy of Holland for centuries and endorsed by Queen Wilhelmina. All druggists, three sizes.
Look for the name Gold Medal on every box and accept no imitation

FREE TO Pile Sufferers
Don't Be Cut—Until You Try This New Home Cure That Anyone Can Use Without Discomfort or Loss of Time. Simply Chew up a Pleasant Tasting Tablet Occasionally and Rid Yourself of Piles.

Let Me Prove This Free

My internal method for the treatment and permanent relief of piles is the correct one. Thousands upon thousands of grateful letters testify to this, and I want you to try this method at my expense.

No matter whether your case is of long standing or recent development, whether it is chronic or acute, whether it is occasional or permenant, you should send for this free trial treatment.

No matter where you live, no matter what your age or occupation, if you are troubled with piles, my method will relieve you promptly

I especially want to send it to those apparently hopeless cases where all forms of ointments, salves and other local applications have failed.

I want you to realize that my method of treating piles is the one most dependable treatment.

This liberal offer of free treatment is too important for you to neglect a single day. Write now. Send no money. Simply mail the coupon, but do this now. TODAY.

Free Pile Remedy
E. R. Page,
423 G Page Bldg., Marshall, Mich.
Please send free trial of your method to:
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Big New Stump Puller Book FREE

Tells the Cheapest and Easiest Way to Clear Your Land!

Write for the book today. Read how Kirstin scientific leverage enables ONE MAN ALONE to pull big, little, green, rotten, low cut, tap rooted stumps, also trees, hedges or brush. No horses or extra help needed. No digging, chopping or other expense. The Kirstin is lowest in first cost—lowest in operating cost. Soon pays its cost in Bigger Crops, and Increased Land Value. It adds thousands of dollars to profits each year. Write for the New FREE Book Now!

One Man Alone Handles Biggest Stumps

Kirstin ONE MAN Stump Puller

Six Months to Pay! Thousands of farmers now buy on Easy Payments. So that way the KIRSTIN actually pays for itself before you pay for it. You don't feel the cost at all.

The famous Kirstin is made of finest steel. Guaranteed 3 years against breakage—flaw-or-no-flaw. It weighs less—Cost less. Yet has greater speed, power, strength, and lasts longer. A few pounds on handle exerts tons on stump. Single, double, triple power. Several speeds. Low speed loosens stump. High yanks it out quick. Patented quick take-up for slack cable. Easily moved around field. A WONDERFUL SUCCESS.

Try It 30 Days FREE!

Send no money. Simply send for your Kirstin on my "no risk" offer. See how easily One Man Alone handles biggest, toughest stumps. Give it Every Test. PROVE all my claims. If satisfied, keep puller. If not, return at my expense. No risk to you. Six months to pay. Write for the big new FREE Book today. A. J. KIRSTIN, General Manager. 70

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WORLD'S LARGEST MAKERS OF STUMP PULLERS

LEAGUE DECISIONS NOT BINDING ON U. S., SEC. HUGHES TELLS ALLIED COUNTRIES

Secretary Hughes, of the state department, has addressed notes to Japan, Great Britain, France and Italy in reference to mandates, particularly that of the League of Nations to Japan over the Island of Yap in the Pacific. That addressed to Great Britain says:

"With respect to the mandate to Japan, purporting to have been confirmed and defined in its terms by the Supreme Council of the League of Nations, of the German possessions in the Pacific Ocean, lying north of the Equator, this government deems it appropriate to state the fundamental basis of its representations and the principles, which, in its view, are determinative.

"It will not be questioned that the right to dispose of the overseas possessions of Germany was acquired only through the victory of the allied and associated powers, and it is also believed that there is no disposition on the part of the British government to deny the participation of the United States in that victory. It would seem to follow necessarily that the right accruing to the allied and associated powers through the common victory is shared by the United States and that there could be no valid or effective disposition of the overseas possessions of Germany, now under consideration, without the assent of the United States.

No Party to Treaty.

"This government must, therefore, point out that as the United States has never vested either the supreme council or the League of Nations with any authority to bind the United States or to act on its behalf, there has been no opportunity for any decision which could be deemed to affect the rights of the United States. It may also be observed that the right accruing to the United States through the victory in which it has participated could not be regarded as in any way ceded or surrendered to Japan, or to other nations, except by treaty, and that no such treaty has been made.

"The fact that the United States has not ratified the treaty of Versailles cannot detract from rights which the United States had already acquired, and it is hardly necessary to suggest that a treaty to which the United States is not a party could affect these rights. But it should be noted that the treaty of Versailles did not purport to secure to Japan or to any nations any right in the overseas possessions of Germany, save as an equal right therein should be secured to the United States. On the contrary, article 119 of the treaty of Versailles provides:

"'Germany renounces in favor of the principal allied and associated powers all her rights and titles over her oversea possessions.'

"It will not be questioned that one of the 'principal allied and associated powers' in whose favor Germany renounces her rights and titles is the United States. Thus, not only could the position of the government of Japan derive no strength from the treaty of Versailles or from any discussions preliminary thereto, but the terms of that treaty confirm the position of the government of the United States.

"Further the draft convention relating to the mandate for the German concessions in the Pacific Ocean, north of the Equator, which was subsequently proposed, proceeded in the same view, purporting on behalf of the United States as one of the grantors to confer the mandate upon Japan, thus recognizing the right and interest of the United States and the fact that the proposed action could not be effective without the agreement of the United States as one of the principal allied and associated powers.

"As the United States did not enter into this convention or into any treaty relating to the subject, this government is unable to understand upon what grounds it was thereafter attempted to confer the mandate without the agreement of the United States. **It is manifest that the League of Nations was without any authority to bind the United States, and that the confirmation of the mandate in question, and the definition of its terms, by the council of the League of Nations in December, 1920, cannot be regarded as having efficacy with respect to the United States.**

It should be noted that this mandate not only recites article 119 of the treaty of Versailles, to the effect that 'Germany renounced in favor of the principal allied and associated powers all her rights over her oversea possessions, including therein the groups of islands in the Pacific Ocean, lying north of the Equator,' but also recites that 'the principal allied and associated powers agreed that in accordance with article 22, part 1, (covenant of the League of Nations) of the said treaty, a mandate should be conferred upon his majesty the Emperor of Japan to administer the said Islands and have proposed that the mandate should be formulated' as set forth. While this last quoted recital, as has already been pointed out in previous communications by this government, is inaccurate in its terms inasmuch as the United States as one of the principal allied and associated powers had not so agreed and proposed, the recital again recognizes the necessity of the participation of the United States in order to make the proposed disposition effective.

Quotes From Wilson.

"As, in the absence of any treaty with the United States relating to the matter, there was no decision on May 7, 1919, binding the United States, it is deemed to be unnecessary again to examine the brief minutes of the meeting of the Supreme Council on that date. It may, however, be proper to say that the minutes of this meeting, although obviously without any finality, could not properly be construed without due regard to the other proceedings of the supreme council and without taking account of the reservations which President Wilson had already made in the previous meetings of the supreme council on April 21st, April 30th and May 1st, 1919. The attitude of President Wilson is sufficiently shown by the following statement which he made to the Department of State on March 3, 1921:

"'I beg to return the note received yesterday from the Japanese government, which I have read, in relation to the proposed mandate covering the Island of Yap.

"'My first information of a contention that the so-called decision of May 7, 1919 by the council of the four assigned to Japan a mandate for the Island of Yap, was conveyed to me by Mr. Norman Davis, in October last. I then informed him that I had never consented to the assignment of the Island of Yap to Japan.

"'I had not previously given particular attention to the wording of the council's minutes of May 7, 1919, which were only recently called to my attention. I had on several occasions prior to the date mentioned, made specific reservations regarding the Island of Yap and had taken the position that it should not be assigned under mandate to any one power but should be internationalized for cable purposes. I assumed that this position would be duly considered in connection with the settlement of the cable question and that it therefore was no longer a matter for consideration in connection with the peace negotiations. I never abandoned or modified this position in respect to the Island of Yap, and I did not agree on May 7, 1919, or at any other time, that the Island of Yap should be included in the assignment of mandates to Japan.

All Mandates Conditional.

"'As a matter of fact, all agreements arrived at regarding the assignment of mandates were conditional upon a subsequent agreement being reached as to the specific terms of the mandates and further, upon their acceptance by each of the principal allied and associated powers. The consent of the United States is essential both as to assignments of mandates and the terms and provisions of the mandates, after agreement as to their assignment or allocation.

"'The consent of the United States, as you know, has never been given on either point as to the Island of Yap.'

"Apart from the expressed purpose of President Wilson in relation to the Island of Yap, inasmuch as the proceedings of the supreme council in May, 1919 did not, and in the nature of things could not, have finality, this government is unable to perceive any ground for the contention that it was the duty of this government to make immediate protest with respect to the so-called decision of May 7, 1919, and certainly it cannot be said that an omission to do so operated as a cession of its rights. It may be added, however, that when the matter was brought to the attention of this government in connection with the conference on communication in October last, this government informed the government of Japan and other governments, (by notes of November 9, 1920) that it was the understanding of this government that the Island of Yap was not included in the action of May 7, 1919. Its position was subsequently stated at length.

Asks Reconsideration.

"It is a cause of regret to this government, that after and despite this protest, there should have been any attempt to pass upon drafts of mandates purporting to deal with the Pacific islands including Yap, and that a mandate should have been approved, or attempted to be put into effect, which, while purporting to be made in the name of the United States, was without the assent of the United States. This government trusts that this action, which it must assume was taken under a misapprehension, will be reconsidered.

"In particular, as no treaty has ever been concluded with the United States relating to the Island of Yap, and as no one has ever been authorized to cede or surrender the right or interest of the United States, this government must insist that it has not lost its right or interest as it existed prior to any action of the supreme council or of the League of Nations, and cannot recognize the allocation of the Island or the validity of the mandate to Japan.

"In this view, this government deems it to be unnecessary at this time to consider the terms of so-called 'C' mandates, or the discussion with respect thereto.

"This government, as has been clearly stated in previous communications seeks no exclusive interest in the Island of Yap and has no desire to secure any privileges without having similar privileges accorded to other powers, including, of course, Japan, and relying upon the sense of justice of the government of Japan and of the governments of the other allied and associated powers, this government looks with confidence to a disposition of the matter whereby the just interests of all may be properly conserved."

Propose Huge Pool of Farmers to Put Grain on Market

The ratification conference on the co-operative grain marketing plan submitted by the farmers' marketing committee of 17 assembled in Chicago last week for "the most important meeting of farmers that the history of our country has ever recorded," in the words of C. H. Gustafson, chairman of the committee.

Details of the plan, prepared during nearly a year of conferences, to market the majority of the farm products of the country under the most favorable price conditions were submitted to representatives of the various farm organizations behind the proposal.

The plan proposed by the committee of 17 as a basis of action called for farmers to contract for the sale of all their grain as members of the national co-operative organization. Several ways of disposing of the grain were offered. The principal one was for a national pool. Machinery for handling the enormous quantities anticipated, if a national pool conducted by the farmers of the country went into effect, was outlined. This consisted in part of national agencies for finance and for export.

The plan proposed by the committee of 17 differed in some respects from that promoted by the Wheat Growers' Association of America in Kansas and from the system already in operation, under the northwest wheat growers exchange. The three organizations were united, the committee reported, though not entirely in scope or method.

FOILED!

Quick-Witted Sheriff Deputizes Members of Mob to Lynch Negro Prisoner Charged With Attacking White Women.

The quick wit of Sheriff John Logan of Polk county, Fla., in swearing in as deputies every member of a mob that had surrounded his automobile in which he had as a prisoner, Wilmer Collins, a negro, prevented a lynching near Elk Landing.

Collins, who was arrested on a charge of having attacked six white women, was being taken to the Bartow county jail by the sheriff and three deputies. Just outside Lakeland a crowd of 100 men surrounded the party's automobile.

Facing the mob, Sheriff Logan declared, "I know every man among you, I swear each and every one of you in as a deputy sheriff. It is your duty now to escort, with us, this prisoner to the jail at Bartow."

While the crowd stood in surprise the officer quickly placed his charge in a faster car than his own and sped away to Tampa. The crowd followed but was distanced.

During the world war the Canadian expeditionary force served in France, Macedonia, Palestine and Russia.

Thief Gets Heavy Fine, Must Pay 100 Bricks

One hundred bricks was the fine imposed on Andrew Order by Magistrate Marsh in the Staten Island court. Order was charged with petty larceny in having taken 30 bricks from Julius Sinka, building materials dealer. Sinka accepted the ruling.

President Harding Plans Journey to Alaska This Year

Close friends of President Harding say he has his mind set on a trip to Alaska during the coming summer and that plans for the trip are taking definite form.

Secretary Fall of the Interior department plans to accompany the President. Several members of congress are likely to be members of the official party. The President is in hopes that the legislative program can be completed by midsummer and that upon the adjournment of congress he will have an opportunity to take a well-earned vacation.

The President has received a number of requests from the Northwest that he visit that section, and these invitations fit in well with his plans for an Alaskan trip.

If the President's hopes are realized and congress adjourns by July, he will have a chance to go to Alaska and return in plenty of time to give attention to any public business that might have accumulated in Washington.

Dog Gets Medal

The medal of the National Canine Defense league of England has been awarded to the Great Dane dog Quorndon Lucas. His owner was walking along a dark road when the dog suddenly rushed along at a full gallop, jumped at him and threw him into a hedge. A second later a motor car rushed by. The dog was struck and badly injured.

"Ball Players" in Chicago Use Clever Ruse to Get Mail

Five men recently parked an automobile in a vacant lot across Federal street from the Polk street station loading platform in Chicago, pulled off their coats and started playing baseball.

In a couple of hours they suddenly threw down gloves, bat and ball, and drawing revolvers, made a dash for a loading platform. Mail truck No. 4,212, carrying a heavy consignment of registered mail, had just backed up to the platform.

"Throw up your hands," the men shouted. Four of them waved revolvers menacingly at the crew of men, while the fifth shouted to Clerk D. J. Colbert:

"Toss out the registered mail sack."

Clerk Colbert, who had left the federal building with the mail was to accompany it until it reached its destination in Indianapolis. He threw out the sack.

The bag is believed to have contained more than $50,000 in money and valuables. It was bulky, and too big a load for the ordinary man. The robber, described as a giant weighing over 200 pounds, grabbed the sack with one hand and carried it to the car across the street.

Two other bags containing ordinary mail were taken. Clerk Colbert held in his hands two registered packages consigned to Hammond, Ind., which were overlooked by the quintet.

BRITAIN'S DRINK BILL PASSES $2,250,000,000

Great Britain's drink bill increased by more than $400,000,000 last year as compared with 1919, says a report to the department of commerce from Consul Hunter Sharp at Edinburgh, Scotland.

The amount spent on intoxicating liquors in the United Kingdom in 1920, the consul says, is estimated at $2,285,795,050, as against $1,878,469,000 in 1919. The total however is about 24 per cent less than before the war.

Now Comes Springtime With Its Severe Tax Upon the Human System

That general run-down condition, known as "Spring Fever" is now abroad in the land.

Few people are fortunate enough to escape the debilitating, dragging down condition that always comes with the changing seasons, and especially when nature is undergoing the transition from winter into springtime.

Just now there is a universal re-adjustment of every element in nature. Plant and animal life alike merge into the re-awakening that comes with the budding of springtime.

Naturally, such a decided change means a severe tax upon the elements involved. In plant life, it means that all the energy stored away for winter sustenance has been consumed, and the plant or tree must gather new forces to feed and develop it and give it strength and nourishment to enter upon the long dry heated term.

Similarly, the human body has just passed through the severest season of the entire year, and has been subject to the hardships of the winter season with all of its various attacks of sickness and disease. And even though you may have escaped the prevailing dangers and come through the winter without having succumbed to illness, still your system has been severely taxed, and all the stored up energy has been consumed in warding off disease.

The human system is now endeavoring to throw off the accumulated impurities, and your run-down condition is a mute appeal to nature for help in preparing for the changing season.

As springtime approaches, you begin to notice a loss of energy, you become easily tired out, and fatigued, your appetite fails, and that worn-out, good-for-nothing, run-down feeling seems to have complete possession of your body. Your poor, tired out body has fallen a victim to what is commonly called "spring fever," and a feeling of complete lassitude pervades the entire system.

Just as plant life throws off the accumulations of the winter season, so does the human system find it necessary to get rid of the impurities that have crept in, and made the blood supply sluggish and interfered with the vigor and strength and energy that is so badly needed to enter upon the new season.

The most important part of the human system is the blood supply. It is absolutely necessary that the ever flowing stream of life-giving fluid be kept pure and rich and that no impurities be permitted to creep in to make it sluggish and impair your general health.

You should take the first indication of "spring fever" as an unfailing warning that your blood needs a thorough cleansing and toning up. Impurities that have been accumulating throughout the winter season should be eliminated, and the system put in the best possible condition to withstand the dangers of summer sickness.

Of course you do not feel like placing yourself under a doctor's care, and there is really no necessity for doing so. Your system simply needs a good toning up, and for this purpose there is nothing equal to S. S. S., the fine old blood purifier and tonic that has been in successful use for more than half a century.

S. S. S. is nature's own remedy, being made from roots and herbs of recognized medicinal value, gathered direct from the forests. It acts directly upon the blood, promptly cleansing it of all impurities, improving the appetite, and giving new strength and vigor to the entire system.

S. S. S. gives prompt relief from so-called "spring fever," and a few bottles taken right now will put your system in perfect shape for the changing season.

You can obtain this fine old remedy at any drug store. Your druggist will tell you that it is one of the most reliable remedies on his shelves. For free expert medical advice regarding your own case, you are invited to write to Chief Medical Adviser, 176 Swift Laboratory, Atlanta, Ga.—Adv.

Central Authority to Assume Charge of Soldier Relief

Progress in solving the government's problem of caring for ex-service men, whether sick or disabled, or physically fit, by having financial claims to be adjusted, was made at the first meeting of President Harding's special committee, headed by Charles G. Dawes of Chicago.

It was unanimously agreed that the administrative machinery now operating separately in the several fields of soldiers' relief, should be consolidated under one central authority, probably a new executive office who would be responsible directly to the President. Heads of all the bureaus having to do with treatment of the war veterans said they favored the general idea of a consolidated service bureau.

Kill Rats

New Way by Science

HELP the U. S. Public Health Service in its great crusade to kill all the rats in the country. They cost $180,000,000 a year, carry disease, spread plague. Rats rob average farmer of $100,00 a year. What do they cost you? How much grain do they eat? How many baby chicks do they kill?

New Discovery Not a Poison

REEFER'S RAT VIRUS is its name. Bacteriological concentrate discovered by noted French scientist. Prepared in Government Inspected Laboratory. Does away with all traps and poisons. Entirely different. Used world over on ships, wharves, warehouses where rats are thickest. Sure death for every rat—absolutely harmless to everything else. Children can eat it as safely as jelly.

Guaranteed to Kill Every Rat or Money Refunded

Use REEFER'S RAT VIRUS—every rat on your place will be gone in a short time—or your money back. What greater proof of its merit could you want? You don't have to suffer from rats any more. You can kill them SURE.

Rats Die Outside!

Always die outdoors seeking water. No rotting odor. No rats to kill. Only perfect rat killer invented. Approved by highest scientific authorities. Sure death—safe—simple to use.

FREE Trial

Prove that your rats can be killed without risk. Take advantage of this great offer. Fill out coupon. Use REEFER'S RAT VIRUS. If there's a single rat left, your trial costs you nothing. Isn't that fair? Don't wait. Rats are costing you money every day you delay. Spread disease, cause fires—don't hesitate—accept this square-deal offer.

Don't Delay

Don't tolerate rats any longer. Fill out coupon and mail. For just $1.00 we will send you enough Reefer's Rat Virus to clear a big barn or house of rats. Send for it! Try it! If there is a rat alive, you get your money back. Every rat killed means $10 saved. Every living rat costs you $10 a year. Get rid of every rat—here's your chance.

Mail This Coupon

E. J. Reefer, 9804 Main Street, Ventnor, New Jersey

Canadian Address: Fort Erie, Ontario

I accept your offer. Enclosed find $1.00 for one package of Reefer's Rat Virus. You agree to refund my money if I'm not 100% satisfied.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

THE LATEST MARKETS

Wheat prices were slightly lower than the previous week, but Monday there was a slight upturn resulting from the freezing temperature throughout a considerable section of the wheat belt. The field advices tended to show that the crop had escaped serious damage. In the produce market cheese prices are lower and eggs dropped another cent.

Grain

Wheat, cash, $1.44; May, $1.46; July, $1.17½. Corn, cash, 61c. Oats, cash, 43c. Barley, cash, 70c. Rye, No. 2, cash, $1.38. Cloverseed, cash, 1920, $12.75; April, $10.40; Oct., $9.20. Alsike, cash, 1920, $14.15. Timothy, cash, 1918, $2.60; 1919, $2.60; 1920, $2.70; April, $2.70; May, $2.70; Sept., $3.10.

Chicago—Wheat, May, $1.33¾; July, $1.12¾. Corn, May, 60c; July, 63¾c; Sept., 66⅜c. Oats, May, 37¾c; July, 39⅛c; Sept., 40⅛c. Barley, May, 61½c. Rye, May, $1.30¼; July, $1.03⅞; Sept., 95⅛c.

Produce

TOLEDO — Butter—Fancy Elgin creamery, 1-lb. prints, 53c; solid pack, 52c; nut margerine, 26@27c.

Cheese—Fancy brick, 24@26c; limburger, New York, 2-lb. bricks, 35c; Wisconsin, 1-lb., 33c; domestic, 32c; new Michigan, 25@26c; longhorn, 26@27c.

Eggs—Candled, 25c; selects, 28c.

Bacon—Fat, 20½c; lean, 20c; wide, 6 to 8 lbs., 27c; 9 to 10 lbs., 26c; 11 to 12 lbs., 23c; 13 to 15 lbs., 18c. Hams, 28½c. Lard, 11½c. Sausage—Bologna, 16c; frankfurters, 19c; fresh pork, 15c; luncheon, 17c.

Live Poultry — Ducks, 32@33c; turkeys, 45@48c; geese, 20@22c; chickens, 32@33c; old roosters, 20@22c.

Hides—No. 1, 3c; No. 2, 2c; bull, 2c; green calf, No. 1, 9c; No. 2, 7½c; kip, 7c; No. 2 kip, 5½c; cured hides, No. 1, 4c; No. 2, 3c; horse hides, $1.50.

Tallow, rendered, No. 1, 4c; No. 2, 3c.

Cleveland—Butter—Extra, in tubs, 52½@53c; prints, 53½@54c; extra firsts, 51½@52c; firsts, 50½@51c; seconds, 35@39c; packing, 12@17c; fancy dairy, 27@32c. Eggs—Fresh gathered northern, extras, 28½c; extra firsts, 27½c; Ohio firsts, new cases, 26½c; old cases, 26c; western firsts, new cases, 25½c. Oleomargarine, lb. prints, nut oleo, 22@24c; high grade animal oils, 25@25½c. Cheese—York state, 31@32c; brick, 32@38c; limburger, fancy, 30@32c; Swiss, 35@60c. Poultry—Live, heavy fowls, 32@34c; roosters, 22@23c; spring chickens, 32@33c for choice. Potatoes—Ohio and New York round white, $1.65@1.75 for 150-lb. sack; Michigan round white, $1.75; Florida Hastings, $8.50 for bbl. 165-lbs. Sweet Potatoes—Tennessee yellow, No. 1, $2.00 bu.; Virginia kiln-dried, $1.75@2.00 hamper; Alabama Porto Ricans, poor stock, 80c@$1.25 bushel.

Chicago — Potatoes steady; receipts, 57 cars; northern whites, sacked, 90@95c cwt.; new Florida Spaulding Rose, No. 1, $8.50@9.00 per bbl. Butter unchanged. Eggs higher; receipts, 22,537 cases; firsts, 24@24½c; ordinary firsts, 20@21c; at mark, cases included, 21@23½c. Poultry, alive, unchanged.

New York—Butter firm; receipts, 7,582; creamery, higher than extras, 49½@50c; creamery, extra, (92 score), 49c; creamery, firsts (88 to 91 score), 45@48½c; packing stock, current make, No. 2, 21c. Eggs irregular; receipts, 41,625; fresh gathered, extra firsts, 29½@30½c; do., firsts, 26@29c; state, Pennsylvania and nearby western hennery, whites, firsts to extras, 30@37c; do., browns, extras, 34c; do., gathered browns and mixed colors, firsts to extras, 28@33½c; storage packed, extra firsts, 31@31½c; do., firsts, 29½@30½c. Cheese easier; receipts, 3,512; state whole milk, flats, held, specials, 27½@29c; do., average run, 25@26½c; state whole milk, flats, fresh, specials, 23½@24c; do., average run, 23c. Live poultry irregular; broilers, 40c@$1.15; fowls, 33@34c; dressed poultry, weak; turkeys, 45@62c.

Live Stock

Cleveland — Hogs — Receipts, 5,700; lower; heavies, $8.50@8.75; yorkers, $9.75; pigs, $10.25. Sheep, $6.50; lambs, $8.50@9.00. Calves, $9.00@10.00; cattle, $9.00.

Pittsburgh — Hogs—Receipts, 2,500; higher; heavies, $9.50@9.75; heavy yorkers, light yorkers and pigs, $10.50@10.60. Sheep and lambs—Receipts, 1,000; steady; top sheep, $6.00; top lambs, $9.25; lower. Calves—Receipts, 100; steady; top, $12.00.

East Buffalo — Cattle—Receipts, 150; slow; steady. Calves—Receipts, 450; 50c lower, $5.00@11.00. Hogs—Receipts, 3,200; steady to 25c lower; heavy, $9.00@9.75; mixed, $10.00@10.25; yorkers, $10.25; light, yearlings and pigs, $10.75@11.00; roughs, 57.75@8.00; stags, $5.00@6.50. Sheep and lambs—Receipts 2,000; lambs, 25c higher; wool lambs, $6.00@10.75; clipped lambs, $5.00@9.50; others unchanged.

East St. Louis, Ill.—(U. S. Bureau of Markets) — Cattle — Receipts, 200; compared with a week ago; steers, lights, yearlings and heifers, bulls and stockers and feeders, 50@75c lower; cows, 25 to 75c lower; canners steady; veal calves, 25 to 50c higher. Hogs—Receipts, 2,500; fairly active and steady to 10c higher; light butcher classes up most; top, $10.00; bulk lightweights and lights, $9.75@10.00; bulk mediums, $9.25@9.75; bulk heavies, $8.75@9.00; packer sows and pigs steady; quality good, everything sold; for week: heavies steady; others 25c to 50c lower. Sheep—Receipts, 150; receipts all direct to packers; for week: lambs and yearlings about 50c lower; others steady.

Chicago—(U. S. Bureau of Markets)—Cattle—Receipts, 500; compared with week ago, beef steers mostly 75c lower; bulk cows, heifers, bulls, stockers and feeders generally 50c lower; better grades veal calves steady; lights, 25c to 50c lower. Hogs—Receipts, 4,000; active strong to 15c higher; better grades up most; top, $9.90 early; practical top, $9.80; bulk 200 lbs. down, $9.50@9.80; pigs, nominally steady. Sheep—Receipts, 6,000; receipts mostly to packers direct; compared with week ago lambs steady to 25c higher; sheep steady.

Buys an Island in Pacific to Make U. S. Playground

If fortune had been very kind to you and you had wads and wads of money, and stocks and bonds, and blocks and tracts of valuable real estate scattered here and there, and you had, in fact, pretty much of everything that gold will buy to make you happy, would you yearn for something else?

William Wrigley, Jr., the Chicago multi-millionaire and sportsman, was just such a darling of fortune. Yet he wanted something more.

It was—

An island in the Pacific Ocean.

Not a little toy affair with a few houses, a boat landing, a few trees and containing some scattered acres; on the contrary, a small empire in itself, being twenty-five miles long, nine miles wide and containing 54,000 acres of some of the most picturesque mountainous scenery in the world.

Mr. Wrigley talked about his island of wonders, or rather Santa Catalina Island, to use its full name, in much the same matter of fact way that a proud suburbanite would tell of a new home he had but recently purchased.

"About two years ago I found that I could obtain Catalina Island at an advantageous price," Mr. Wrigley said. "I was interested in a banking deal which involved buying the property at what seemed to be a reasonable figure. I took the owners up on their offer and a few millions of dollars changed hands. I didn't get to inspect my property for six weeks, but I knew that I had not bought a pig in a poke. I was delighted with my 'buy' and have been more and more pleased every day I am here to enjoy it.

"When I have completed a long list of improvements and have the island laid out according to plans that will take several years for their execution, I expect to make it a playground for the west. It will become a Riviera of the Pacific, but it will be distinctly an American Riviera catering to Americans desring American amusements.

"Last year the payroll of the island's hotels, boarding houses, camps, fishing enterprises, furniture factory and amusement concessions was $980,000. The island's population at the height of the summer season was 12,000. Quite a hefty business proposition involved in Catalina."

$13.95 Goodyear Raincoat Free

Goodyear Mfg. Co., 1904-R Goodyear Bldg., Kansas City, Mo., is making an offer to send a handsome raincoat free to one person in each locality who will show and recommend it to friends. If you want one, write today.

PLAGUE OF MOSQUITOS PLAN TO CORRECT BATHERS

Rev. Elmer Finger, delivering his first sermon in National Park, N. J., told his hearers that he intended to make no compromise with the forces of evil, as exemplified by Sunday baseball, the liberalized Sabbath or scant costumed bathing. If exhortation failed, he said, he was going to combat the bathing costume by starting a mosquito hatchery along the shore and loose the buzzing legions to bite the objectionably exposed limbs.

Poilu in a New Color

"Horizon blue," which replaced, during the war, the traditional blue coats and red trousers of the French army, is likely in its turn to give place to a greenish-gray cloth which will be adopted by the French field service uniform in the future.

CLASSIFIED OPPORTUNITIES

FOR READERS OF THE TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

Go over them each week and write to advertisers whose proposition interest you. Say you saw the ad in THE TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE.

Over One Million Persons See These Little Ads Every Week

CHARGE FOR SPACE—75c cents per line (count six words to a line). Send cash with order. No advertisement accepted for less than two lines nor more than forty-two lines. Advertisements that reach us Tuesday morning will appear in issue of that week.

Only Reliable Advertisements Printed

MALE HELP.

Learn Auto and Tractor Business in 6 to 8 weeks; opportunities everywhere offering $150 to $400 a month; twice more equipment and floor space used in daily practice training than any Auto School in America; master mechanic instructors and same method we used to train thousands of soldier mechanics in 60-day courses; write for Free Catalog. Rahe Auto and Tractor School, 2139 Oak st., Kansas City, Mo.

Be a detective. Excellent opportunity; good pay; travel. Write C. T. Ludwig, 205 Westover Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

FEMALE HELP WANTED.

An exceptional opening those desiring profitable plain sewing machine work at home; no canvassing; city, country; no experience required; to prevent curiosity seekers send 12 cents, samples, information. Good Wear Cloth Co., Asbury Park, N. J.

$6-$18 a dozen decorating pillow tops at home; experience unnecessary; particulars for stamp. Tapestry Paint Co., 189 LaGrange, Ind.

AGENTS WANTED.

AGENTS—Make a dollar an hour. Sell Mendets, a patent patch for instantly mending leaks in all utensils. Sample package **free.** Collette Mfg. Co., Dept. 710-C, Amsterdam, N. Y.

Agents—To sell Spark Plug Testers. Write National Spark Plug Tester Co., Benton Harbor, Mich.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Kodak Films—First roll developed and 6 glossy prints, 25c. J. Clyde Hogan, Box 246, Hinton, West Virginia.

Frostproof cabbage plants, early varieties, 1,000, $1.25; 5,000, $5.00. T. C. Lipscomb, Boaz, Ala.

PATENTS.

Patents Secured. Prompt service. Avoid dangerous delays. Send for our "Record of Invention" form and Free Book telling How to Obtain a Patent. Send sketch or model for examination. Preliminary advice without charge. Highest references. Write TODAY. J. L. Jackson & Co., 157 Ouray Bldg., Washington, D. C.

Patents—Booklet free. Highest references; best results; promptness assured. Watson E. Coleman, Patent Lawyer, 624 F st., Washington, D. C.

MEDICAL.

Dr. McTaggart, Bryan, Ohio, is treating Piles successfully without cutting, or cauterizing.

TOBACCO HABIT.

Tobacco or snuff habit cured or no pay, $1.00 if cured. Remedy sent on trial. Superba Co., TH., Baltimore, Md.

FARMS FOR SALE.

Pennsylvania and New York farms for sale. Good dairy country. Acreage $25 to $50. Don't pass up this opportunity. THE E. H. SHREVE REAL ESTATE CO., Union City, Pa.

MISCELLANEOUS FARMS FOR SALE.

$300 Down Secures Fruit and Poultry Farm

35 acres in clean, healthful, invigorating country; convenient advantages; half in good potato, hay, grain, fruit tillage; spring watered pasture; woodland; 7-room cottage, fine spring water; 10-cow barn. For quick sale, $550 gets it, $300 down, easy terms. Details Page 49, Spring catalogue, 1100 Bargains, FREE. STROUT AGENCY, 150S, Nassau st., New York.

SCHOOLGIRL, 15, IS YOUNGEST NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER IN U. S.

Fifteen-year-old Alice C. Nichols of Liberal, Kansas, America's youngest newspaper publisher, has a mighty problem on her hands. Uncle Sam has been bringing her hundreds of letters from every city in the country and little "Miss Publisher" can't find time to read them. Still a school miss, she edits her paper after school hours, sets the type and runs out the 150 copies on a hand press at the Liberal, Kas., Democrat. She publishes once a week.

America's youngest publisher "broke in" when nine years old. She published her first paper, called the "Tiny Town News," to supplement a play given by children at Manhatten, Kas., where her father, Dr. Roscoe T. Nichols, was college surgeon at the Kansas State Agriculture College. After the play Miss Alice continued her newspaper efforts, getting out a weekly with a pencil.

When Alice's father enlisted during the world war she kept him and other Manhatten soldiers "in touch" with home affairs by sending each a copy of her Tiny Town News. Her newspaper then had graduated to the process of being printed on a typewriter and mimeograph.

After her father moved to Liberal, the paper changed its name to "The Nichols Journal." It is now four pages and has a circulation of 150. It is printed in the Liberal Democrat office, where Miss Alice does her reportorial, her typesetting and press work once a week.

Has Editorials, Too.

The Journal carries an editorial every week. It also has display advertising, for which Miss Alice charges ten cents an inch.

"It pays to advertise in the Journal," is her comment.

Her editorials, thought out on the way to school and written after school, are enlightening.

"Ignorance is the cause of constant war, starvation and homelessness," she says in a current issue. "It is up to happy American citizens to do away with these conditions."

On the recent crime wave, she says, "The police forces throughout the country have been strengthened to combat the crime wave. But to overcome this mania for crime each individual must guard against it."

On the Christmas spirit she wrote, "Our world wouldn't be such a hard place if we kept this spirit the year around."

Independent in Politics.

The Journal is independent. Miss Alice says so in her masthead declaration. It is 25 cents a year to "home town" subscribers, but 50 cents a year to out-of-towners.

And Miss Alice publishes the name of all new subscribers.

In a recent issue Miss Alice warned against a scarlet fever epidemic. "The thing to do," she said, "is to nip the epidemic in the bud, and the way to do this is to put on a strict quarantine right now."

A week later Miss Alice was stricken with the fever.

"HIP" EXPLODES

Flask In Rearward Pocket of Sleuth Blows Up and Gotham Police Court Adjourns In Disorder As Bomb Plot Is Feared.

New York's night court, busy as a result of the police department's first drive at enforcement of the state prohibition law, adjourned temporarily in disorder recently, when a quart bottle of confiscated liquor exploded in the pocket of a detective.

The detective stood before the magistrate supporting a man, who, with bowed head was confessing that he had partaken too freely of the brew that intoxicates.

"Where's the evidence?" asked the court.

The detective's hand moved toward his pocket. Followed a loud report, someone shouted "bomb" and a rush for the exits began. The detective was hurled to the floor, as was his prisoner. The magistrate and others in the court gathered outside, returning only when apprised of the cause of the explosion.

The next defendant on the docket, a father of ten, still trembling as a result of the explosion scare, took a pledge to abstain "forever and ever."

U. S. ADMIRAL ASKS TURKS TO RESTORE TEACHERS

Rear Admiral Mark L. Bristol, commander of United States naval forces in Turkish waters, has taken up with the Turkish Nationalist government the reinstatement of American teachers at the American college at Marsivan.

He hopes to persuade the Turks there is no further military necessity preventing the return of these teachers, and in the meantime, has taken steps to keep the college open, pending the completion of negotiations. Greek teachers from the college at Marsivan were reported on April 1 to have been court martialed by the Turks.

Fruit Millinery

Market garden millinery is the note in the Paris spring fashions. Vegetables, fruit and wild flowers are all pressed into service as designs. A spray of cherries a foot long dangles from the side of a little mushroom-shaped hat. Linings for spring cloaks are now made of silks which flame with the vivid colors of tropical flowers.

MAN MAKES VALUABLE FIND AMONG SAVAGES

Natives of the Cook Islands in the Pacific ocean are reported by a traveler returning from a voyage there to be taking a vegetable oil for rheumatism which is said to accomplish amazing results. He says he saw badly crippled natives completely cured by swallowing a little of this oil twice a day. Hundreds of letters from rheumatic sufferers have been answered and oil sent them free after he returned to America. Mr. Paul L. Wilkes, now stopping at the Georgian Terrace hotel, Atlanta, Ga., can supply further information and some of the oil free.—(Adv.)

ENGLISH LABOR PEACE UP TO COAL MINERS

Lloyd George Makes Proposal to Strikers — England Prepares to Cope With Grave Industrial Problem.

Final decision of peace or war between the government and the striking coal miners of England was thrown on the shoulders of the miners by Premier Lloyd George Tuesday afternoon.

After separate conferences with the miners and mine owners, the premier submitted to the miners' federation a proposed basis of settlement. Upon its acceptance or refusal depends the question whether the triple alliance would call its threatened strike Tuesday at midnight.

Since the premier's proposition is at wide variance with the miners' demands, its rejection is looked for. It is said the owners flatly reject the miners' most insistent condition, that of pooling the mine owners' profits.

Here is the mine owners' basis, backed by the government, as submitted to the miners.

1—Firm refusal of the miners' demand for the pooling of the mine owners' war profits.

2—Refusal of the demand for the establishment of a national wage scale. Instead, it is offered to divide the country into large districts, inclusive of good and bad mines, with boards of revision to readjust wages on a district, not national, basis.

3—Assistance by the government's treasury until August, when certain unprofitable mines would be forced to close.

As a result of the miners' strike and the threatened strike of railroad and transport workers, all England has been in the throes of a great industrial crisis. On one side was the government and on the other a great mass of workers controlling fuel and transportation.

The army and navy were prepared to help out in case of a tie-up, appeals were made for recruits to the land forces, soldiers and naval engineers were sent to the coal mines to pump them out and prevent their destruction and the air forces were organized to carry food in case the blow fell.

On War Footing.

Meanwhile London and the rest of the kingdom has been assuming a more and more warlike aspect. Already the nation is more thoroughly "in armor"—on land, at sea and in the air—than it was for many weeks after the outbreak of the world war.

All the improvements that the great conflict brought into being are pressed into service.

The king's call for reserves for active service received a hearty response. Scotland Yard, headquarters for recruiting, has been thronged by men of all classes and ages, ready to enlist for 90 days at a common soldier's pay.

At the same time thousands are volunteering to enroll in the citizens "Emergency force" called for by the monarch in the proclamation which Lloyd George read amid cheers in the house of commons.

Aircraft may play a tremendously important part in the government's efforts to combat the paralysis of industry, transport and traffic, and, most of all, food supply due to the strike.

"Blimps" and other airships, including the type manufactured during the war on the Zeppelin model will be used to carry food from ports to inland points while ordinary airplanes will act as mail carriers.

The government's proclamation calling up army and navy reserves for service during the strike invited "loyal citizens, including those serving with territorial forces, capable of bearing arms and between the ages of 18 and 40 to report at the nearest territorial drill hall for the purpose of being commissioned or attested for temporary military service with the regular army in new units called "defense units."

Riots and sabotage continued in the strike paralyzed coal fields. Mine after mine was flooded. Even if the coal strike were to be called off it would take many months to get production back to anywhere near normal. Some of the damage already done is irreparable.

Other great industries have begun to suffer. From Derbyshire came word that the big Stavely Iron works have had to be shut down owing to lack of coal. Three thousand workers were rendered jobless overnight. The Stanton Iron works also have been closed. The same thing is being duplicated over and over in all parts of the kingdom. In the Fifeshire coal fields, among the richest in Scotland, floods have swept the roads and many collieries are under water. New shafts will have to be constructed at those mines before another ton of coal can be produced.

ENGLAND'S SOCIAL REVOLUTION

BY SIR PHILIP GIBBS.

IN MANY ways the social spirit of England has been more changed in the last six years of history than in the six centuries preceding them. Such a statement may seem fantastic in exaggeration for the sake of an easy and arresting phrase, yet it is exactly true of certain characteristics of English life and habit, for the war was a convulsion which shook England to the core and broke up many of its old instincts and traditions of social faith.

In spite of modern developments of democracy and industry, the progress of education, and the growth of cities, Egland remained, until the World war, amazingly feudal in its structure and insular in its habits of thought. The old landed aristocracy maintained in the countryside the power and allegiance which they had possessed for hundreds of years, and the small farmers and tenantry, fast rooted to their soil, had no sense of change and no desire for change.

Like Chaucer's England.

In countries like Somerset and Davon, Warwick and Gloucester, Norfolk and Suffolk, the peasant laborer was, in his ways of speech and thought, but little different from his forefathers of Tudor and Plantagenet times, spoke almost the language of Chaucer, so that to the London man, modernized, quick-witted, the "yokel" of the south, west and north was incomprehensible in his dialect, and primitive in his outlook and understanding.

The landed gentry, in old country mansions, changed the cut of their clothes, danced the fox trot, adopted the latest social fashion, but instinctively, in the very fiber of their bodies, in allegiance to a tradition of life and to a certain plot of land which was theirs, were intensely insular.

I remember a year or two before the war a startling instance of the conservatism of English life beyond the cities. It was when the craze for "pageants" had caught hold of English imagination, so that in many old towns the people dressed themselves in the costumes of the past, reread the history of their forefathers, and acted the drama of the centuries from Saxon times to their own present. In Norfolk there was such a pageant, and one scene of it was to represent a chapter of history when five hundred years ago, the gentlemen of Norfolk, with their squires, came to pay homage to Mary Tudor, their princess. Five centuries had passed, but every actor in the scene bore the same name, lived on the same soil, held the same place, as those ancestors of his who had knelt before the Tudor princess.

In a thousand ways like this England held to the past. The people were insular, and the sea which divided them from the Continent was a great water of defense against the spirit of change, except in outward, superficial things.

War Changed Everything.

Then the war came and changed everything in the spirit of the English people. * * * At first it seemed as though it would be like other wars of England—a foreign expedition of a little professional army, and of young lads eager to see "foreign parts" by taking the king's shilling. They would fight gallantly, many would be killed, there would be exciting reading in the newsprints, and then the bells would ring for victory, the lads would come marching back, and English life would go on again, hardly touched or altered. Even at Waterloo there had been only 25,000 English soldiers. To the mass of English folk the Napoleonic wars had been a remote and distant thing, not affecting their own lives much.

When the great World war broke out the British troops who were sent, according to the pledge with France, were called the "Expeditionary Force," as in the old days. But presently the Regular Army was spent, and presently all the youth of the nation was sent out, the younger brothers following the elder brothers, the married following the single men, fathers of families conscripted like the boys at school.

England was all in—all her men, all her women, and no escape for any of them in the service of death. No living body in England was exempt from the menaces of destruction. Death came out of the skies, and chose old men and women, nursing mothers, babies, anyone. The enemy attacked them in little homes in back streets, in big factory centers, in the heart of London. * * * So England was no longer safe in her island. An island people, unmvaded for a thousand years, with utter reliance on her fleet as an invincible shield, were suddenly shocked into the knowledge that the sea about them was no longer an impassible gulf between them and all foreign foes. It was a shock which broke up the old psychology and the instincts of a thousand years.

English youths went out to the death fields, hundred thousand after hundred thousand, until four million men had gone that way. From first to last on all fronts the men of the English counties—not Irish, or Scots, or Welsh, or Canadian, or Australian—made up 64 per cent of the British fighting forces. They were English soldiers who fought most, and endured most, and died most, because there were most of them, though the world heard least of them, because the English people don't talk most about themselves. Out of every four men who went out to the World war one did not come back again, and of those who came back many are maimed and blind and some are mad. England and the spirit and mind of England were altered by so great an ordeal which had come to every home and heart.

War Made Labor Prosperous.

In many ways the alteration was plainly visible during the war, especially to fighting men who came home from the dirty ditches on three days' leave, or seven. The home-staying people—the old and middle-aged, the women, the workers in the factories providing the material and munitions of war, the government officials, clerks and employers of labor, even the young girls—seemed to be possessed by a new energy, a more vital spirit, a restless and energetic excitement. They were all "out to win." They were all, in big ways or little, dynamic in their activities. Caste was for a time abolished. University professors were acting as field laborers. Patrician women were making munitions with factory girls.

A great, strong, spiritual wind seemed to have swept through all classes of English life. It had cleansed even the slum of great English cities which had seemed past cleansing. Before the war an immense population in England crowded into the cities, had lived below the poverty line or on the thin edge of it—miserably, precariously, dirty. There was a mass of floating, casual labor often out of work, huddled in the hovels of back streets, in filthy conditions. Their children were ragged, barefooted, underfed.

Now these conditions had been altered by the war. The demand for labor was so great that every able-bodied man could get a good wage. The government and the employers paid great wages for skilled work. Mechanics who had found trouble in getting 40 or 50 shillings a week now gained 200 or 300 shillings a week. Any girl with her hair hanging down her back or tied into a pigtail could get a wage that her father would have envied before the war. Munitions girls were getting three and four pounds a week, some of them far more than that. Small families, all working, paid by government money, raked in an incredible weekly revenue. For the first time they had a broad margin of money for the fun of life as well as for its sharp necessities.

I remember being home on leave once during the war and walking in the park of a poor district of London on a bank holiday—that day when the poor people used to come out of their slums in their rags to enjoy a little liberty. This time there were no rags, but well-dressed children, girls over-dressed in the imitation of fashionable ladies, a strange new look of prosperity and well-being. At that time the workers in factory towns had more money than they knew how to use, and bought absurd little luxuries, and grabbed at the amusements of life without thought of the morrow. There were pianos in the homes of coal-heavers, and the wives of laborers wore fur coats—in summer as well as in winter.

The fighting man, back from the trenches, where he risked death every day and every minute of every day for one shilling two-pence, was startled by the money made by the luckier men who worked for war at home. He saw injustice there, inequality of service and reward, and sometimes was bitter and blasphemous on the subject. But, on the whole, the soldier did not begrudge the money earned by the home workers. They were his folk. He was glad of their luck, though he did not share it. He believed that when he came home—if he came home!—he, too, would get high wages for any job he might get.

His wrath, and the wrath of the home workers (in spite of their own prosperity) were reserved for the manufacturers and financiers who were making enormous profits out of government contracts—vast profits out of the massacre. "The profiteers," as they were called, sometimes unfairly, became the worst hated class in England by the masses of working people, and by the old gentry who gave their youths to war, according to old traditions and the law of their caste, without any reward but that of pride and honor. They saw themselves doomed by the uprising of the New Rich. The small landowner, the country squire, the nobleman of the old order, aloof from trade and manufactures, gave their wealth to the service of the state as they gave their sons, and upon them fell, year by year, a heavier burden of taxation. Before the end of the war, and after the end of it, many of them sold their estates, which had been in their families for hundreds of years, sold also their family treasures. The New Rich took possession of many old mansions, bought the family heirlooms of the old regime, renovated and vulgarized old historic places.

I know one family of the ancient order whose history of the war is typical of others. There were four sons, and all of them were in the army or navy, and two of them were killed. The daughters became nurses and devoted themselves to the wounded during all the years of war. The mother died by the strain of war. Increasing taxation bore down heavily upon an already impoverished estate. The father, a peer whose name belongs to the great memories of England, sold the pictures of his ancestors to an American millionaire, then the treasures and relics of his house. It is now an empty shell, and the eldest son, back from the war, farms a little plot of land, with one of the New Rich in possession of the great estate, which belonged to the family since the first Charles was king.

New Poor Against Rich.

A social revolution has been accomplished in England by this turn in the wheel of fortune. The New Poor—once the old gentry—are scraping along on the remnants of former wealth; the New Rich possess their places, and so far have not learned those traditions of kindness, of generosity, and of noble manners which made the older gentry pleasant people, whatever faults they had. In a way previously unknown to a great extent in England, small traders, little manufacturers, business adventurers without capital or power seized the chance of war, the needs of a government reckless of all cost, provided the supplies of war came in, and made rapid progress to great prosperity. Their profits mounted higher and higher, and, though the government imposed upon them an excess-profits duty, most of them dodged it, in one way or another.

It was the middleclass man or woman that was hardest hit by taxation before the ending of the war, and by the prices of life's necessities rising higher and higher every month. The laboring classes kept mostly beyond the pace of these rising prices by rising wages. Well organized and fully aware of their new importance as the workers for victory, they saw to it that their wages should always be on the upgrade and beyond the tide of living costs. If that did not happen they went on strike, and the government yielded—every time. The government paid every kind of wage for work, though secretly it knew that there would be a fearful reckoning when victory was assured, if it might be assured, which was not always certain. But there were many people between the devil and the deep sea—between the profiteers and organized labor. They were unorganized. They were living on the interest of small capital. They were dependent on fixed salaries, or professional fees which could not be increased. Their rents were raised. The income-tax assessor had no mercy on them. The cost of living frightened them. They were reduced to a state of stinting and scraping, underfeeding, clinging to shabby clothes. They, more than any, belonged to the New Poor.... Then at last the war ended and masses of men came back from the battlefields, leaving an Army of Ghosts behind them—their dead comrades. Then all things changed under the surface of English life.

The Men Who Came Back.

Those men who came back were not the same men as those who had gone away. They had been utterly changed.

They had gone out from the villages in England where their life had been very narrow, very limited in ideas and speech. Many of the boys in those villages were as simple and unthinking as the peasants of the Middle Ages.

From the city slums they had gone out in the big battalions, and the undersized, underfed, ill-aired lads of that city life had been broadened and strengthened, well fed, well aired in an outdoor life that was healthy and fine when it was not deadly and dreadful. They had taken frightful risks as a daily habit, until the thought of death was not much to them. They had mixed and talked with men of many minds. They had thought strange thoughts in the silence of the night watches with the instant menace of death about them.

Some of them were broken in nerve. Some of them were brutalized and demoralized by this life of war. Many of them were bitter and resentful of the things they had had to do and suffer and see. All of them hated war. Most of them had come to think that not only the Germans were guilty of that war, though more guilty, but that something was wrong with civilization itself, with the governments of nations, with the Old Man who had sent the young men to the trenches, because the massacre had been arranged or followed.

To Be Continued.

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FOREIGN POLIC[Y] IS OUTLINED T[O] 67TH CONGRE[SS]

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ing of laws governing federal aid.

MERCHANT MARINE—"Prin[ci]ple monopolies tending to prevent development of needed facili[ties] should be prohibited. Governm[ent] owned facilities wherever poss[ible] without unduly interfering with p[ri]vate enterprise or government ne[eds] should be made available for g[en]eral usages."

AVIATION—Regulation by federal government and encourag[e]ment of aviation for development military and civil purposes."

SERVICE MEN—"The Amer[i]can people expect congress un[fail]ingly to voice the gratitude of the republic in a generou[s] and practical way to its de[fen]ders in the world war."

The immediate extension and utilization of government hos[pi]tal fa[cil]ities to "bring relief to the acute conditions most com[pl]ained of."

PUBLIC WELFARE—Co-ordi[na]tion of various government agenc[ies] now working on the subject and [in]dorsement of the pending materni[ty] bill.

LYNCHING—"Congress ought wipe the stain of barbaric lynch[ing] from the banners of a free and [or]derly representative democracy." proposal for a commission with rep[re]sentatives of white and bla[ck] races to study and report on the s[u]ject," the President said, "has m[uch] merit."

ARMY AND NAVY—Early co[n]sideration of pending appropriat[ion] bills was urged. "The government in accord with the wish to elimin[ate] the burdens of heavy armament said the President. The Unit[ed] States will ever be in harmony w[ith] such a movement toward the high attainments of peace.

"But we shall not entirely dis[re]card our agencies for defense until there is removed the need to defend. We are ready to co-operate with other nations to approximate disarmament, but merest prudence forbids that we disarm alone."

Strike at Expenditures.

NATIONAL FINANCE—"The st[a]gering load of war debt must cared for in orderly funding a[nd] gradual liquidation. We shall hast[en] the solution and aid effectively lifting the tax burdens if we str[ike] resolutely at expenditure."

ADMINISTRATION—"Enactm[ent] of a national budget system and g[en]eral reductions by efficient manag[e]ment of the cost of government."

BUSINESS—"Less of governme[nt] in business as well as more bus[i]ness in government. * * *There no challenge to honest and law business success. But governme[nt] approval of fortunate, untrammel[led] business does not mean toleration restraint of trade or of maintain[ing] prices by unnatural methods * * Anxious as we are to restore the d[o]ward flow of business, it is fair combined assurance and warning one utterance.

Must Cut Retail Costs.

AGRICULTURE—"The ma[in]tained retail costs in perishable foo[d] can not be justified. * * * * R[e]duced costs of basic production h[ave] been recorded but high cost of liv[i]ng has not yielded in like propo[r]tion. * * * * Without the spi[rit] of history or haste in accusation profiteering some suitable inquiry congress might speed the price adjustment to normal relationsh[ips] with helpfulness to both produ[ce]r and consumer. A measuring rod fair prices will satisfy the coun[try] and give us a business revival to [end] all depression and unemployment."

These were the principal subje[cts] touched on in the address which about 7,500 words in length and large portion of which was devo[ted] to the related subjects of peace, [the] league of nations and the country's foreign policy.

The President's discussion of [the] peace question opened with a def[i]nite declaration against the exist[ing] league of nations.

"In the existing league of nati[ons] world governing with its su[per] powers," said the President, "[our] republic will have no part."

The heart of a vegetarian beats on an average 58 times a minute that of a meat eater, 75 times.